

HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2001



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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

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Presidential Address

To the 126th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society, Adyar,
26 December 2001

With much joy I welcome you all to this 126th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society. The Convention is a wonderful time for strengthening our sense of brotherhood and unity, and also our resolve to work for the good of all humanity and not for our own personal progress and well-being. Let us rise to invoke the blessing of the Holy Ones who are watching over humanity and whose channels down here on earth are those who wholeheartedly offer themselves in service without thought of their own wants or needs.

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power, and energize it with Their activity.

The theme of this Convention is the spiritual Path by which the human being may transcend himself and enter a higher, superhuman dimension. The three Objects, we must note, have this as their undertone. Universal brotherhood, with emphasis on the word 'universal', implies unconditioning the mind; the second Object urges us to love truth and live it; and the third Object teaches us not to be satisfied with appearances, but to discover the unknown in the universe as well as in ourselves. Prejudice in the human mind is the source of all the divisions which result in war, poverty and exploitation; and delusion makes people pursue false aims. It is therefore important for progress that men and women should increasingly learn to uncondition themselves and make Truth the supreme object of their lives. This is the meaning of entering the Path. The future of the TS may depend

on its giving encouragement in this direction and being an instrument of transformation. Let us consider briefly some relevant points.

Everywhere in Nature there is invisible movement, transforming all things according to the Plan of the Universe. Life in any form implies that an unknown energy is at work, bringing about changes at the material, psychic and spiritual levels. Even so-called inanimate things — minerals, mountains and rocks — are changing, but generally so slowly that we disregard the fact. But there are also many changes at the subtler psychic level and in deeper consciousness that are 'slow' according to our measure of time and imperceptible to our senses.

Trees absorb energy from sunlight, from the earth and water they imbibe; that energy takes form, grows, flowers and brings forth fruit. Outwardly, at any given moment, nothing very much

seems to happen. But within there is a dynamic process by which the energy received is transmuted creatively in such a way that those who observe the tree with an open mind and heart share in that creative process — through experiencing joy, beauty and inner expansion into a feeling of oneness with the tree. Thus the energy of sun and earth — in fact the universal energy — passes through every cell of the plant and directly into the consciousness of the sensitive observer, linking both in unity. Matter and consciousness fuse together by this linking of being to being, even though the observer and the tree, in this case, belong to different kingdoms. This natural course of exchange and expansion through unification is brought to a halt in human beings who are unable to perceive a continuous upward thrust in the dynamic movement of life. We rarely realize that an invisible inner power is transforming every outer form and also providing an opportunity for the unfolding of consciousness in others to a higher level.

There is said to be a path of evolution which is a blossoming of joy. It is a more spontaneous and rapid path of progress than various others. Children are, as we know, naturally joyous, and during their first few years they grow through the sheer joy of using the physical body. Later, through watching innocently and with amazement the life around — the movement of an insect or of a kite — they bloom further. Affection and love also nurture their souls. They know the secret of being causelessly happy. Nature teaches them, as it does all other

innocent creatures, that living joyously is a way to grow inwardly: absence of joy is a sign of shrinking consciousness. All the universe — the vast space, the sun and stars, the diverse forms and colours, the interaction of myriads of things — are ever-new sources of joy to the innocent mind and assist the process of an individual's inner transmutation. Unfortunately, people in general are absorbed in artificial pursuits and illusory aims. Hence they ignore the existence of the path of spontaneity and joy.

Happiness is inherent in the soul of all beings. It is obvious not only when we see children play, but in the song of birds, the frolicking of fish, and in other natural activities and processes. According to Indian thought, Sat or Existence is *Ānanda* or Supreme Happiness. Before children are put in the mould of worldly preoccupation and while they are still blessed by the virtue of not knowing, they are happy, for it is natural to be happy. When Annie Besant asked, 'Is there anybody who is happy and wants to become unhappy?', she pointed to this fact. When the mind is unconditioned and the heart pure, joy flows out from within — in fact, is ready to flood our being as well as the whole world, because life or existence is joy. But our earthbound thoughts and unnatural habits block the way, yet only for a few incarnations — even though this may seem to be long from our point of view — because Life-energy is irresistible and will sweep us on its course.

The spiritual Path is not a matter of going somewhere or arriving at a preconceived goal. The word 'path' may bring to mind a journey, like

journeys made at the physical level, and we need to remind ourselves that we are using a metaphor. The path is the welling up of what is inherent in our being, namely joy, love, peace, wisdom and other eternal values. Thus the ancient teaching that each living being is a sacred vessel or Holy Grail to receive and pour out inexhaustible spiritual energy.

All the deep longings of the human being reflect what is in his spiritual or true nature. Not only is joy inherent in and natural to our being, we also have a profound need for mutual relationships of harmony and affection. It is now known that plants thrive when they are lovingly cared for. Experiments show that animal vibrations change when they receive affection, and innumerable proofs exist of their wanting to give affection, even to indifferent human owners. All creatures bask in love and develop healthily and speedily when they are in an atmosphere of affection and harmony, because love, like joy, is an inherent part of life and being.

We cannot examine the subject in detail here, but we can all ponder and discover what soul-needs reflect the inherent qualities of the Life-principle, without which we would all cease to exist. There is for example the deep desire for security, not only physical security, but the well-being of a consciousness free of fear. Where can it be found? Not in power or possessions, for there is no security in dependence. The thing that is depended on may change, disappear or refuse to cooperate, and the sense of security is shattered. Inner peace exists only when there is no dependence on anything outside for feeling inwardly healthy

and well. Strange to say, real security is in discovering the ground of our own being, which is universal, immortal Life, the source and support of our own life. We may say that the attributes of pure being such as joy, love and an absolute sense of security and peace are like seeds which lie buried in the soil of our consciousness. Slowly they sprout and grow, and at a certain stage the human being realizes that this is how the undercurrent of all lives is flowing and that we must shape our lives in such a way that the latent qualities of our true nature unfold.

A gardener cannot make a plant grow, but he can assist in creating conditions which facilitate growth. We do not have to do anything to make ourselves develop spiritually. We can only make it easier for the divine qualities already in the depth of our being to manifest in all their splendour. This is what self-culture signifies. From the ancient times of the Vedāntin-s up to the recent statements of Krishnamurti, the wise have said there is nothing to achieve on the path, but much to renounce. As *Light on the Path* points out, ambition has no role in spiritual unfoldment, it must end completely. The path must be trodden without struggle, without self and without concepts about the goal. Life teaches us where to go — towards ever deepening, ever expanding joy, beauty, love, peace and wakefulness. How shall we facilitate this when we know it is so? By stepping every time in that direction. This is the ethical life on which spiritual development must be firmly established. In everyday life, body, mind and speech must begin to express the values inherent in universal

life, which demands great watchfulness. As a good gardener removes weeds with care, so must impediments to the manifestation of these values be eliminated with alertness — which is renunciation, not achievement.

It is evident that joy cannot exist along with frustration, love along with hatred, peace with ambition, or truth and spiritual light without an awakening of consciousness. The soil in which ambition and frustration, hatred and insecurity lodge themselves and flare up whenever there are opportune moments is the soil of selfhood.

We are not truly selfless when we are satisfied to be fairly nice people, not quarrelsome, ready to make some small sacrifices for the sake of others. Selfishness exists in many forms and conditions, indicated by many words beginning with self: self-concern, self-pity, self-interest, self-assertion, self-conceit and so forth. Worry, prejudice, undue concern about one's health, security and possessions, argumentativeness, trying to appear clever — these and many other psychological habits are exhibitions of self-will and self-preoccupation, a display of the separative ways of the self. Further, as *At the Feet of the Master* says: 'If you have forgotten self altogether, you cannot be thinking when that self should be set free, or what kind of heaven it shall have.' The Path so called is this work of removing the variety of weeds rooted in the self.

The true theosophical spirit and the theosophical way of doing anything — lecturing or discussing, meeting people or dealing with mundane matters — is to put the self in the background and let

it die. Then there will be room for the divine qualities of our true being, of which we have been speaking, to blossom and flourish, and our acceptance of the Society's Objects will have real meaning. By our understanding of the importance of the Path in this sense and by our living the appropriate life, the TS can be dynamized, because the best and highest within members who live the life will be at work, allowing the vast energy of the Life principle itself to manifest. Otherwise, we are caught in routines, and there is no noticeable change in our lives to enthuse and inspire others.

Let us begin then to remove the weeds in our psyche and consciousness and let the light within shine without impediment. Let us prepare and enter the Path of purity and holiness.

* * *

A major event of the year was the Ninth World Congress held in Sydney from 13-19 January, centring on the theme 'In Tune with the Universe'. It was a testimony to the global character of the TS, with 516 members from 39 countries present. A report of it with some photographs appeared in *The Theosophist* of April 2000, and the May issue carried the text of many talks as well as a résumé of matters discussed by the General Council, which met on one day. I will not therefore say more about it here.

Gaps in our ranks arose with the passing of some long-standing and dedicated members and others who in their own spheres supported the Society. Mrs Norma Sastry, born in Detroit, USA, came to Adyar as a

young woman in 1935 at Dr Arundale's call to young members. She died on 19 April 2001 after decades of committed and exemplary service. Her friendliness and knowledge of work at the International Headquarters endeared her to hundreds of visitors and made her presence invaluable. Another stalwart who passed to peace was Ianthe Hoskins, known and admired all over the theosophical world. She had a unique way of presenting the theosophical philosophy, with seriousness and wit combined. Her published works, small booklets though they were, have circulated widely and will keep her memory alive for a long time to come. In Pakistan, Mr Doulat Mahtani was a pillar of the Society, always ready to help by his participation, advice and munificence. He was the first to respond to Adyar's call for establishing an Animal Welfare Endowment Fund. To the above-mentioned and to others we cannot list, we owe a great debt of gratitude.

At present there are 29 Sections, 11 Regional Associations, 9 Presidential Agencies and some Lodges directly attached to Adyar spread over the world. The difference between Sections and other bodies is in numerical strength. A Section needs to have a minimum of seven Lodges, but may have many more, as in the case of the Indian Section, which has around 400 Lodges and 13,413 members. Numbers are not the only indicators of theosophical strength in a Section or country, but they do point to the presence of the TS over a wide area. The Indian Section has almost thrice as many members as the whole of Europe and about five times as many as all of

Latin America, which comprises Central and South America. The American Section too has more members than all the European Sections put together and exceeds the total number of the Latin American Sections. Our membership is thus concentrated in a few areas. Even within Europe, Italy has more than a quarter of the total number of members, while Brazil and Cuba together have more than half the number in Central and South America.

In an effort to shorten the customary survey of work around the world, I have refrained from giving details that can be read elsewhere, including titles of lectures and names of people. Even then, time is needed to obtain an all-round vision of the worldwide work. Personally, for me, a wide view is valuable, and I hope it is for you also. It helps us not to be imprisoned in the affairs of just one Lodge, or in local matters, and also to be linked inwardly with brothers and sisters dedicated to human regeneration, even though we may never meet them.

Let us return to the Indian General Secretary's report. He remarks that Indian members enjoy a unique benefit because both the Convention of the Section and the International Convention take place concurrently in the highly charged atmosphere of Adyar. The Section has also the benefit of participation by international officers and overseas visitors in its work. Every year, it organizes two major study camps, one at its headquarters in Varanasi and another at Bhowali in the Himalayas, as well as a Conference during Easter at Adyar. Mr Vicente Haó Chin from the Philippines

conducted workshops in several places on self-transformation. The Federations organized vernacular study programmes in their own areas.

The General Secretary visited several Lodges; the National Lecturers and other speakers also travelled widely. Publications were brought out in the regional languages, which is important, for without them a vast number of people who do not know English would have no access to Theosophy. The report mentions that many Lodges and Federations introduced Theosophy to youth by conducting debates, essay and elocution competitions, and workshops on subjects related to Theosophy, and presented theosophical books to students. Several Federations organized sales of theosophical publications in book fairs.

In the historic town of Udaipur, both the Governor of the State and its Education Minister were present at the centenary meeting of the TS Lodge and commended its work to promote brotherhood and serve physically disabled boys and girls. The Mangalore Lodge on the West Coast of India also commemorated its centenary, with the International President of the TS and the Vice-Chancellor of the Mangalore University as special guests, attracting much attention on the part of the public and the Press.

The Report records the passing of Miss Vira Dastur, Mrs Malti Pandya, and Mr P.N. Chakraborty, all stalwart workers.

In the rest of South Asia, conditions are not so favourable. In Pakistan there is only one active Lodge in Karachi, with 124 members. Public lectures are

held almost every month in a hotel, bringing the Society increasingly to the attention of the public. *The Karachi Theosophist*, circulated to all members and to 125 others, is an important means of dissemination. There is an excellent library and reading room in a fine building owned by the TS. Elsewhere in the country, one by one, the Lodges we had have collapsed, the latest being the one in Hyderabad, Sind. In Sri Lanka there are three active Lodges at Galle, Badulla and Veyangoda besides the Lodges in Colombo, which are yet to be organized properly. The General Secretary says that steps are being taken to establish Lodges in various Buddhist Colleges, starting with Ananda College, where Olcott Lodge was established long ago. I visited Colombo in May and travelled to Kandy and Badulla along with the General Secretary in an effort to strengthen and initiate activities. Mr Pedro Oliveira will spend two weeks in Sri Lanka next April. We hope that with sustained effort the TS in this conflict-ridden country will regain strength and help to bring brotherhood and peace to it.

The TS in America, the second largest Section of the Society, has now 5,131 members. The increase, reports the National President, is the result of the Membership Outreach campaign started by the National Secretary, Mrs Suzanna Kenline. He remarks that we must employ effective methods to make the existence of Theosophy and the TS known. The Section has 56 Lodges, 62 Study Centres and 5 provisional groups. The National Lodge communicates through e-mail

and is growing faster than other Lodges, having more than 800 members. Two study papers a month are sent to its members.

Three national Young Theosophists' meetings were held during the year in the East, Centre, and West of the country. The Young Theosophists have their own Newsletter. During the year, 19 speakers presented 132 programmes around the nation. The Section's Online Library catalogue offers access to holdings in the libraries at Olcott, Krotona, and New York Lodge, including the audio and videotapes. The archives have been further enriched by additional material relating to Geoffrey Hodson.

Among the Quest books published was *The Esoteric World of Madame Blavatsky* by Daniel Caldwell, with most interesting accounts of HPB's character and life by people who knew her. Some books, such as Annie Besant's *Thought Power* and *At the Feet of the Master*, have been recast in modern language. These appeal to some readers and not to others who prefer the author's own language. Plans are under way to supply more and more theosophical material on the web.

At the headquarters in Wheaton, a Garden of Remembrance has been reconstructed with the help of several people. The National President says that looking ahead one can see four interconnected challenges: 1) To develop a comprehensive curriculum of theosophical study, meditation and service; 2) to find the most effective means of reaching the largest number of people with that curriculum; 3) to foster communities of students around the country to pursue the curriculum; 4)

to make Theosophy available to ethnic groups, such as the Hispanic community.

Neighbouring the United States is another huge country, Canada, which is a Regional Association with six Lodges and several Centres. The Organizing Secretary visited as many groups as he could and worked on framing satisfactory bylaws, not only for the Association, but for the Lodges as well. Two web pages exist, one in English and another in French.

The largest Section in Latin America with 875 members is in Brazil, the fifth biggest country in the world area-wise. Due to a financial crisis, the Section allows annual dues to be paid in instalments, and partial or total exemptions are made when necessary. Their magazine *Theosophia* always carries Watch-Tower notes from *The Theosophist*, which seem to be well liked in other Sections also. The reason seems obvious—that members are interested in how Theosophy is related to current problems and practical life. It is a clue to making our programmes everywhere more attractive.

Regional gatherings are organized in five regions of the Section, and seminars, winter and summer schools are held in the large estate of the Theosophical Institute in Brasilia. Theosophical pamphlets are being distributed freely to Lodges and Centres. All lectures and seminars are filmed and used in four television channels in Brasilia and sent to the cities of Rio de Janeiro and Curitiba for their community television networks. The Brazilian Publishing House continually brings out theosophical

books, one published this year being *The Mahatma Letters*. The Raja Centre, in the outskirts of São Paulo, named after Brother Raja, and the Pythagoras Institute in the heart of the city provide the venue for many activities.

The Cuban Section's Convention took place with the theme 'In Tune with the Universe', and a new General Secretary was elected. In Havana, public meetings and introductory courses in Theosophy are held weekly. Several Lodges meet at the fine headquarters in Havana for study. A valuable gift of books and pamphlets on Buddhism was received for its library. A Young Theosophist group is active.

The TS in Peru has 42 members but prints 1,000 copies of its magazine *Búsqueda*, which means 'Quest'. In Lima, studies take place in the home of the Presidential Representative, who has generously made it available for meetings and a library. A consignment of books was sent from Adyar to provide them access to a wider range of literature on Theosophy. A course on the principles of Theosophy, offered to the public, was well attended. The TOS is active and rendered help to survivors of the earthquake in the South of the country. The Lodges in Bolivia have meetings every Sunday and then eat together. They had three study camps in addition to the normal sessions in Lodges. In Uruguay there are regular radio broadcasts on theosophical topics. Other activities proceeded as usual.

The Argentine Section with about 300 members has been encouraging the young to come forward. The summer school was coordinated by a young

theosophist, Pablo Sender. For the third year, youngsters and adults cooked their own meals, cleaned their rooms and tried to live Theosophy in every activity, while they gathered at their centre in San Rafael to study the *Bhagavadgītā*. The winter retreat was a silent one with reflections on *Light on the Path*. It was followed by a winter school on the 'Inner Path', led by a young member, Damian Pereyra. The General Secretary visited several Lodges and met most of the members. The veteran Mr Juan Viñas gave several much appreciated lectures. A National Lodge has been established and any TS member can participate in discussions via e-mail.

In Chile the number of members has again decreased and now stands at 35. Study classes and public lectures go on in Santiago city and in the town of Valparaíso. Two members from Chile attended the School of the Wisdom at Adyar last year for about a month. The Puerto Rican Section received a large donation of about 6,000 books from the estate of the former General Secretary, Dr Miguel Charneco. A major revision of its Rules to conform to the State laws is planned. A basic course on Theosophy is being prepared, and some members are working to put their magazine *Heraldo Teosófico* into circulation again. The Presidential Representative in Costa Rica, Mr J.H. Hostaller, a stalwart worker, passed away and his place has been taken by Mrs Maria Orlich. The Section has three Lodges in the capital and one study centre outside. Apart from lectures, study courses and so forth, every Sunday there is a meditation for peace.

The report from Mexico says that they were very active at the national headquarters. They had special courses on *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Secret Doctrine* and 'Karmic Astrology'. At the winter school in November they studied the themes in important chapters of *The Secret Doctrine*. Efforts are being made to negotiate the return to the Section of the assets which were held on behalf of the Section by an association called Universal Brotherhood.

At the headquarters of the Colombian Section in Bogotá, they have programmes open to the public every Sunday, with about ten members taking turns to present lectures, etc., and also artistic and cultural events. Periodically they have a course to train members to speak in public. Twice a year, a course called 'An Approach to Theosophy', consisting of nine weekly sessions, is arranged and about 35 to 40 persons attend. Special attention has been given to meditation, following the directions given by Donna Lord and I.K. Taimni in their books, with advice about the discipline of the mental, emotional and physical bodies, so that the real Self can take command. Students are led step by step through attention, observation, imagination and concentration to self-education, service and devotion. Two Lodges and one study group in Venezuela are functioning under the umbrella of the Colombian Section, carrying on normal programmes of study and lectures.

Work went on as usual in the three Lodges in Austria. The summer school was a smaller gathering than usual, with 26 participating. Belgium too is a small Section with 4 Lodges in the

capital and 4 others in the provinces. The study groups particularly favour the writings of HPB, Taimni and Krishnamurti. In three French-speaking towns, study courses in Theosophy are given. Prof. Richard Brooks from the USA and Prof. P. Krishna from India were guest lecturers. In Denmark there are 27 members, the public meetings were arranged in a rented room in Copenhagen and four members' meetings were held. *At the Feet of the Master*, which was out of print, was reproduced on a computer.

In Finland, the third Object of the TS was the main subject for the year, and many times their hall was filled to capacity. At their summer school, the same theme was taken up, with Prof. Brooks as the guest speaker. HPB Lodge in Estonia had a summer school in a little village, with 40 people in attendance. Three translated books were published, namely, Sinnett's *The Occult World*, Annie Besant's *The Path of Discipleship*, and Leadbeater's *Man, Visible and Invisible*. A book on Damodar and *The Key to Theosophy* were donated to all members by the Section and Blavatsky Lodge respectively. Improvements were made in the Section's headquarters at Helsinki. Books were exhibited and sold at two fairs. Discussions were held with representatives of Lodges on the purpose of the TS, the real meaning of Lodge work, brotherhood as a living reality and so forth.

At the summer school of the German Section the theme was 'The Divine Spirit within Us', which was explored in depth with the International Vice-President, Miss Anderson, as the special guest. The Lodges are working

regularly, and the General Secretary reports that members respond well to new approaches. The TS in Germany will celebrate its centenary next year. In France, five Lodges and three groups have programmes in Paris and three Lodges work in Marseille. Apart from these, there are a few other Lodges in the provinces and one in the French-speaking Congo. The magazine of the Section, *Le Lotus Bleu*, started by HPB, is sent to all French-speaking members in Europe and also to Quebec in Canada and Togo and the Ivory Coast in Africa. Three new books in French came out: *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N.Sri Ram, *Ātma Bodha* (Self-knowledge) by Śāṅkarāchārya, and *The Inner Life of Krishnamurti* by Aryel Sanat.

The Italian Section has 1,362 members of whom 109 had not paid the dues for 2001. In the previous year, 137 members did not pay their dues during the year, but the membership did not decrease. There are problems in understanding what exactly is said when reports come from countries where English is not the language. For example, the report from Italy mentions that there are 52 groups and 17 centres, and we have no means of knowing what these groups are. Are they Lodges, which may also be called branches according to the Constitution, or are some of them study groups without a Charter? The General Secretary lectured in several places, and a seminar was held in collaboration with the European Federation on the theme 'Universal Brotherhood and the Search for the Sacred'. About a dozen Italian members attended the last Convention. The Theosophical Order

of Service in the country donated money for the earthquake victims in India and the Olcott School at Adyar.

The General Secretary of the Greek Section reports that they will soon publish *The Key to Theosophy* in Greek. He also says that there were improvements in all aspects of the work, but since the report is vague, we have no means of assuring ourselves of this fact. The annual reports we receive range between the vague and very brief ones, containing hardly any information, and the bulky, highly detailed ones, which demand inordinate time to peruse! In Hungary, where there are only 36 members, discussions are held in the flat of the Presidential Representative, with questions and answers on a variety of theosophical topics. One third of the members are outside Budapest and can meet only occasionally. A study group of non-members also functions outside Budapest. In the Netherlands, a translation of S.S. Varma's *Teachings on Discipleship* was published and is used by some Lodges for study. They will soon bring out Taimni's *Self-Realization through Love and Joy* Mills' *Entering the Sacred Way*. At the headquarters they used *The Stanzas of Dzyan* for a meditation session with more than 70 participants. A one-day seminar with Henk Spierenburg on 'Subba Rao and His Work' attracted 100 participants. A third seminar on 'Esoteric Traditions in the East and West' was attended by 70 participants.

The TS in Norway consists of only 34 members who are keeping public meetings going in Oslo and also activities in Bergen. The Section's library, which is a fine one, stored in

boxes for many years, has been transferred to a friend's place on the outskirts of Oslo. The headquarters building in Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, has been thoroughly renovated. The summer school was held outside the capital, as usual, with a tight programme of lectures, discussions and meditation, and about 40 members taking part. At the headquarters they have meditation programmes for beginners and more advanced groups all through the year. The General Secretary reports that public interest in Theosophy is growing and activity within the Section is lively. The Section's magazine has about 900 subscribers. Three Lodges function outside Reykjavik.

The Spanish Section has set up a web page and printed and distributed to the Lodges 2,000 leaflets to disseminate Theosophy. Their monthly magazine *Sophia* is a good means to make Theosophy known, containing a selection of varied articles from theosophists all over the world. Their output of translated theosophical books serves the Spanish-speaking world. There are 13 active Lodges, 5 study groups and 333 members.

The centre of activity in Slovenia is Ljubljana, where from November to May a monthly seminar is organized under the title 'The Light of Theosophy'. At weekly meetings they study books, articles, Krishnamurti's talks and so on. New members are specially taken care of. The Organizing Secretary reports that members realize that their studies are meant to deepen self-culture. They are trying to revive a Lodge in the town of Celje by holding regular fortnightly meetings there. The

Vice-President, Miss Mary Anderson, is a regular visitor and gives talks in all the Lodges.

The Swedish Section is one of the older ones in Europe with 162 members at present and six Lodges. Their magazine called 'Timeless Wisdom' can be received by e-mail. They hold meetings to introduce new people to Theosophy, and also for young theosophists. They retranslated and printed Dr Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* and are working on other translations including a new edition of *The Secret Doctrine*. The members continue to help an orphanage in Latvia. The Swiss General Secretary deplores the lack of members capable of lecturing. They therefore invite anyone 'whose ideas are not too extravagant' to speak at the headquarters in Geneva, and even to give courses. The membership is concentrated in Geneva, but small groups and sympathizers exist in Basle, Winterthur and Villeret.

At the headquarters of the English Section there were varied programmes. On Adyar Day, Liz Parker presented a lecture on Adyar as the flaming heart of the theosophical movement, incorporating the values of the Ancient Wisdom in daily life. Among overseas visitors were Prof. Richard Brooks and Mr Michael Gomes from the USA. Their lectures were very well publicized. At the Tekels Park centre there was a Secret Doctrine study session and the conferences of the Southern Federation of the Section. There was also a weekend on Modern Science and the Esoteric Philosophy. The summer school was held in Winchester in the South of England,

with the theme 'Theosophy—its Potentialities for the Future'. The membership remains approximately the same.

In Scotland, weekend workshops were held in Glasgow and a beginners' evening was held in Inverness. A series of public talks was delivered in Perth, preceding the Convention in June. In Northern Ireland, Belfast Lodge managed to hold regular meetings, thanks to Queen's University, which allowed the Lodge to hire a room. They studied Annie Besant's book *The Masters* and some of Krishnamurti's writings. We have no report from the Dublin Lodge.

Brother E.M. Affram, a stalwart of the West African Section, who had held various positions, including that of Organizing Secretary before the Section was chartered, died in July after 54 years of membership. The Annual Convention was held in Accra on the theme 'The Theosophical Society and Members' Responsibility', and was both interesting and stimulating. All the members who were in arrears paid up, resulting in a slight increase in membership. A three-day course for workers was directed by I.K. Zaney, and it was proposed to rename this annual feature 'The School of the Wisdom' and open it to non-members. The General Secretary visited Lagos in Nigeria, where he met some members from the east of the country. The South African General Secretary reports that several stalwarts passed away. He and his wife visited Durban and Johannesburg Lodges and met most of the members. Johannesburg Lodge has been involved in a project to uplift the underprivileged in Soweto Black

Township. In East Africa there has been a slight increase of membership in Kenya and Tanzania. Unfortunately, owing to economic conditions and the exodus of Asian members, both Zambia and Uganda saw a decrease in their numbers. The National Lecturer, Reuben Thuku, lectured in Lodges and educational institutions in Kenya and Uganda. The Nairobi Bookstall Manager has established a link with a bookshop chain which, the General Secretary says, is a breakthrough that they tried hard to find. The TOS is active in this Section.

In Australia, the National President and other lecturers visited many Lodges, and the International President and Miss Joy Mills toured the country. The School of Theosophy, led by Mr Pedro Oliveira, was on the subject of 'The Theosophy of the Mystics'. The booklet prepared before the World Congress, called 'Looking for Answers', was widely distributed. Two other leaflets were redesigned, namely *Theosophy and Science* and *The Spirit of the Theosophical Society*. The Section has 1,340 members spread over a huge area. The TOS is active; there is a Theosophy-Science group whose Newsletter circulates all over the world; and three Round Table groups bring the Ancient Wisdom to the young in ways that are appropriate to their age. The National President reports that their work can be summarized as 'The Transformation of Human Consciousness'.

There has been some turmoil in the New Zealand Section and the report is from the Acting National President, who says that they subsidized the travel of some members to the World

Congress in Sydney. The International President visited some Branches in the North Island after the Congress. A science and theosophy weekend was held in October last with Dr M. Srinivasan from India and Dr Hugh Murdoch and Dr Anthony Pisano from Australia. Four new books are sent to each Branch and study centre three times a year for their libraries.

The annual Convention of the Philippine Section consisted of a two-day retreat and one-day business meeting, with the theme 'Living the Theosophic Life'. Every Sunday a radio broadcast takes place, at present constituting a series on mystics and spiritual teachers. The National President has conducted self-transformation seminars in several countries.

The Indonesian Section commemorated its centenary along with the annual Convention from 5 to 7 April 2001, taking the theme of the World Congress, 'In Tune with the Universe'. The International President and the General Secretary of the Dutch Section were special guests on this occasion. A Young Theosophists' dialogue on strengthening genuine brotherhood, with 41 participants, took place in Semarang in October 2000. They also organized a study-recreation camp in March in a mountain resort of East Java. A few books were published in revised editions and two new publications were brought out; one on the theosophic life, consisting of talks by A.J.H. van Leeuwen, and another on the clairvoyant investigations of Geoffrey Hodson and Phoebe Bendit by Andrini Martono.

The Presidential Representative for South-East Asia conveys the good news that the Seramban Lodge in Malaysia, under new office bearers, has begun to have regular study programmes and discussions in addition to the *Gitā* classes, which went on for many years. They are publishing a quarterly newsletter and updating the library. The newly formed Siam Lodge in Bangkok received a boost when Ven. Samdhong Rinpoche visited them in January. Singapore Lodge is most active and brings out a good newsletter. Penang Lodge meets twice a month. Conditions have been very disturbed in Bangladesh and thirty members were forced to leave their homes and ten houses were looted; none of the Lodges in the country have answered letters sent to them.

Among Lodges directly attached to Adyar are Nippon Lodge, Tokyo, and Osaka Lodge in Japan, whose combined strength is 84. In Korea too there is one Lodge with just 15 members. Covenant Lodge in Israel continues its activities on the same lines as last year. The Vice-President, Miss Anderson, gave eight talks when she visited Tel Aviv in September.

During the World Congress a new set of officers of the Indo-Pacific Federation was elected with Mr Pedro Oliveira as President and Mr Dara Mirza of Pakistan as Vice-President. They intend to bring out *The Key to Theosophy* in Mandarin Chinese. The Federation's newsletter is now published twice a year. The emphasis is on making Theosophy more widely known as a 'soul-restoring' wisdom. The President of the Inter-American Federation reports that the fruit of the

extensive tour of the International President is that there are stronger links among the member-nations and more enthusiasm. After Dr Terezinha Kind's visit to Paraguay in May 2001, seventeen persons joined the TS. The business meeting of the Federation, scheduled to take place in Mexico in September last, had to be postponed because of the commotion caused by attacks on the United States. The All Africa Federation issued its first newsletter and started a web page. The European Federation conducted two sessions of its own 'School of the Wisdom' at the Naarden Centre and organized a two-month lecture tour for Prof. Richard Brooks. Contacts were made with Belarus, and three promising young people from that country, seven from Russia and five from Slovenia, were aided to attend the European 'School of the Wisdom'. Theosophical books are being donated to members in Eastern Europe. Other activities go on as usual.

The Vice-President Miss Mary Anderson has again travelled widely in Europe, lecturing in nine countries including Russia and Israel. Her visits and presence were much appreciated. She also conducted a study camp at the Indian Section's headquarters and spoke at Delhi and Chennai on various occasions. After my extensive travels of last year and tours in New Zealand and Australia early this year, I have remained mostly at Adyar attending to essential work, and accepting only a few invitations, including the Federation conferences in Karnataka and Tamil Federations, and also a trip to the Indian Section's headquarters, to deliver the Besant Memorial Lecture in

the Benares Hindu University. Miss Joy Mills toured Australia as mentioned earlier and has given many lectures in Krotona and elsewhere.

Work at Adyar has been proceeding well, thanks to the very dedicated labour of a core group of workers. We were happy to welcome some new staff members: Mr Jan Kind from Brazil, who took charge of the Museum and Archives in September; Miss Sumana Kale, who was appointed Accommodation Officer in May in the place of Mrs Norma Sastry, and was also elected Secretary of the Olcott Education Society; Miss Keshwar Dastur from Ahmedabad, who is Assistant Treasurer of the TS and of the Olcott Education Society; and some others. We still badly need qualified workers for the Library, particularly for cataloguing, and for the editorial work. It is a great opportunity to serve the TS at Adyar and we hope suitable members will come forward to fulfil these needs.

The School of the Wisdom had Mr Pedro Oliveira as Director for the first session from 29 January to 25 February, which covered both western and eastern, ancient and modern mystics; the second one from 5 November to 15 December conducted by Mr Conrad Jamieson on 'Be in Love with Life, Awaken to Its Fullness', presented a wide vision of the Ancient Wisdom, to reach understanding of the biblical phrase 'a new heaven and a new earth'. A seminar on self-transformation by Mr Vicente Haó Chin was held under the auspices of the School of the Wisdom from 12 - 14 October and opened to the public.

The Adyar Library was very short of scholars for a time. Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma died at the age of 95, after serving the Library for several decades. Fortunately, during the year we obtained the valuable services of Pandit K.V. Seshadrinatha Sastri, retired Principal of the Sanskrit College in Madras. Some other additions to the staff are being considered. The Library Bulletin for the year and a few new texts were published. Scholars from India and abroad have made use of the Library, and 1,533 new books were added to the collection. Dr K. Kunjunni Raja, Honorary Director, and Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam, Librarian, have supervised the academic and service activities respectively.

There is a steady increase in the sale of TPH publications. The TPH is continuing to enlarge its distribution network in India and abroad. Considering the vast scope for improving the dissemination of our literature, all members, Lodges, Federations and Sections are invited to take active part in promotion. *The Theosophist* and *Wake Up India* are heavily subsidized without compromising on the quality, and they too can be circulated extensively if members offer their aid for this work, donating the magazines and recommending them to potential subscribers.

TPH participated in several book fairs and plans to do this on a regular basis in India, hopefully with full participation from local Lodges and Federations. The publications of TPH and Adyar Library have been donated to all the principal libraries in India, and will be donated to other libraries

too during the coming year. Gifts of books have been sent to African countries, to Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Peru, Colombia and elsewhere. We plan to extend the book-gift scheme to other developing countries, depending on the need and usefulness.

As usual many books have been reprinted, notably Arundale's *The Lotus Fire* and A.E. Powell's *The Solar System*. The reprinting of other important titles, which have not been available for many years, will be undertaken soon. Shortly also, N.S. Marathe's *The Science of Self-Realization* and Annie Besant's *Avatāra-s* will be out. Last year's Besant Lecture is on sale.

The Museum and Archives Department has taken a turn for the better since the arrival of Mr Jan Kind, who is assisted by Mr R.M. Tolani. Material that could not previously be coped with is being put in order, including collections of paintings and art objects. Very much more must be done in the next few years. The Maintenance Department has accomplished much, with considerable help from the General Manager after the resignation of the former Superintendent. Improvements have been made in Leadbeater Chambers and many other buildings. Additional accommodation has been created for Convention delegates. Preparations are going on for two major projects, namely the dismantling of the condemned high main water tank and the construction of another lower one, and the installation of a lift in Leadbeater Chambers.

Many trees have died or suffered because the monsoon last year failed to

arrive and the previous one was very scanty. This year too the rainfall has been unsatisfactory and our fruit harvest has been very poor. Every possible effort is being made to store and conserve water.

Under the auspices of the Olcott Education Society, much charitable activity is going on. The Olcott Memorial School has had several teachers trained to give visual lessons with computers. A kind donor has paid for two multimedia computers and both students and teachers find it exciting to become part of the new age of technology-aided learning. Tamil software was installed free of cost in the three school computers. The TS has provided the school with much furniture made on our campus. The library has been enriched. Repairs have also been made to the buildings.

At the Social Welfare Centre about 120 infants have been cared for and taught. Tailoring and weaving instruction is given to women in the neighbourhood, and free medical service to the mothers and children. Regular health check-ups are done in both the school and the welfare centre. The Vocational Training Centre for Women conducted a very successful tailoring course during the last few months, so much so that the students want the course to be extended from January.

Ongoing efforts are in progress to improve our Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary and animal welfare activities. Some of the younger members in the campus are planning, in collaboration with other animal lovers, to carry on more vigorous

propaganda to reduce cruelty to animals and inspire compassion. The Besant Scouting Centre was availed of by 19 institutions and a total of 2,037 scouts, guides and children, including an institution for physically disabled children. The aim has been to help character building and raise environmental consciousness.

All over the world, the Theosophical Order of Service is expanding. Active groups in many places are doing fine work along varied lines: donating food, medicines or cash to people and animals in need; holding healing rituals and peace meditations; giving disaster relief, promoting vegetarianism, sponsoring poor students and so forth. They are also doing their best to stimulate the sense of service. The TOS magazine *The Service Link* provides information, offers suggestions and publishes accounts of interesting activities.

The work at our Headquarters is a combination of activities aimed at understanding and disseminating Theosophy through the School of the Wisdom, the publications, lectures, meetings and so on, and at the same time render the maximum service possible to humans, animals and plants. This means integrated living, working and learning. I believe that wherever there are theosophical groups, there must be the spirit of compassion and service hand in hand with the quest for wisdom and truth. May we see our Society grow in this way and inundate the world with Love and Life.

Radha Burnier

**THE TREASURER'S REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2001**

TREASURER'S REPORT – 2000 – 2001

The main features of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2001 are as under :

A. Income:

The gross income for the Year was Rs.12,351,481/- and the details are as follows:

	Rs
Interest	8,550,545
Fees and Dues	2,064,566
Surplus from the Theosophical Publishing House	1,251,550
General Donations	153,420
Licence Fees	100,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	<u>231,400</u>
	<u>12,351,481</u>

Income from investments and the Fees and Dues from members constitute a significant part of the total income of the Society. There is also a surplus of Rs.1,251,550/- from the Publishing House but this surplus amount is essential for publishing new books and the many other books which are out of print. In view of considerable increase in the cost of printing, especially paper and other inputs, the Publishing House is making a conscious effort to keep down the price of books by increasing the print order, though it entails additional investment in the working capital.

Although the interest income has gone up to Rs.8,550,545/-, there was a fall in the rate of interest by 33% during the last one year. Fresh investments/renewals are being contracted at a much lower rate and this will have impact on the income of the Society in the coming years. However, the net increase in funds has enabled us to maintain the income levels, but further expected fall in interest rate will affect the income in the future.

B. Expenditure:

The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs.12,113,034/- and the break-up is as follows:

	Rs
Departments	4,779,131
Charitable work	1,889,834
Propagation of Theosophy	1,161,139
International Offices	625,775
Establishments	1,471,146
Other Expenses	<u>1,386,009</u>
	<u>11,313,034</u>

Transfer to Adyar Estate-
Improvement Fund

800,000
12,113,034

1. Departments:

The net expenditure of the departments for the year is Rs.4,779,131/- compared to Rs.5,095,173/- in the previous year, a decrease of Rs.3,16,042/-.

The broad details are as follows:

Departments	Year ended 31.03.2001 Rs	Year ended 31.03.2000 Rs	Increase/ Decrease Rs
Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers	12,450	182,994	195,444
Garden	923,984	751,127	172,857
Maintenance	<u>3,867,597</u>	<u>4,161,052</u>	<u>293,455</u>
	<u>4,779,131</u>	<u>5,095,173</u>	<u>316,042</u>

A moderate surplus of Rs.12,450/- has accrued from the Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers but the deficit in boarding continues. It is expected that increased repairs and renovation costs in Leadbeater Chambers, including the cost of providing a lift in the coming year, will result in a deficit.

In respect of the Garden, the net deficit has gone up from Rs.751,127/- to Rs.923,984/- , an increase of Rs.172,857/- over the previous year. This increase is mainly due to a steep rise in the general maintenance expenses.

The deficit of the Maintenance Department for the year is Rs.3,867,597/- and the main contributing factors are as follows:

	Rs
Electricity Charges	1,224,412
Water Supply Installations	713,556
Electrical Installation Maintenance	226,046
Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings	1,742,389
Other Maintenance costs including -	
Depreciation	705,329
Office Salaries and Other Expenses	<u>347,077</u>
	<u>4,958,809</u>

Apart from repairs and maintenance of buildings and electricity charges, the expenses on decentralization of the water supply system have accounted for a large part of the maintenance cost for the year. The expenses on account of repairs and maintenance of buildings is likely to go up significantly in the coming year as heritage buildings like the Headquarters and Olcott Bungalow need extensive renovation.

2. Charitable Work:

The amount spent on Charitable work for the year was Rs.2,140,200/- an increase of Rs.494,457/- over the previous year. This is likely to increase twofold in the coming year and it will be mainly incurred for Olcott School, Book Gifts and increased Animal Welfare activities.

3. Propagation of Theosophy:

The net expenditure on Propagation of Theosophy for the year was as follows :

Rs	
Adyar Library and Research Centre	749,922
Vasanta Press	183,488
Archives and Museum	139,552
Others	<u>115,947</u>
	<u>1,188,909</u>

In the coming year, outlay on Archives and Museum is expected to go up significantly, as much work must be done to update and upgrade the department, including computerization. The overheads in the Library may also go up as there is a need to have more qualified staff to support its activities. Although the deficit in the Vasanta Press has come down from Rs.640,923/- to Rs.183,488/-, there is still a cash loss. This trend will continue.

4. Other Costs:

The overall cost of the Establishment and International Offices was Rs. 2,096,921/- as against Rs.2,064,806/- for the previous year.

C. Capital Expenditure:

The total amount spent on Capital account was Rs.1,492,116/- and it mainly relates to buildings and additions to furniture, fixtures and computer related equipment.

D. Overall Position:

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. During the year the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund rose from Rs.40,923,632/- to Rs.41,077,659/- and other funds from Rs.60,530,121/- to Rs.74,431,192/. In the Income and Expenditure account there was a surplus of Rs. 238,447/-.

E. Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the continuous support of the members throughout the world.

Chennai
06/12/01

D. K. Govindaraj
Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED
From 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001 (In Rupees)

Name of Section	1999-2000	2000-2001
African, East & Central	—	—
Africa, South	—	—
Africa, West	2,157	4,540
America, Central	—	—
Argentina	150,545	586
Asia, South East	9,464	3,667
Australia	15,274	192,812
Austria	—	7,333
Belgium	27,449	23,152
Bolivia	8,959	21,583
Brazil	—	450,546
Canada	4,683	8,705
Chile	21,207	22,210
Colombia	—	—
Costa Rica	2,531	3,287
Cuba	—	—
Denmark	—	6,559
England	—	279,179
Finland	53,788	55,716
France	47,632	33,050
Germany	45,379	—
Greece	—	—
Hungary	2,322	—
Iceland	20,352	21,994
India	55,034	37,350
Indonesia	—	9,237
Ireland, Northern	—	1,006
Ireland, Republic of	—	1,328
Italy	61,640	60,700
Ivory Coast	—	—
Mexico	—	—
Netherlands	58,366	153,904
New Zealand	—	13,580
Norway	9,640	4,583
Pakistan	—	—
Peru	14,629	17,203
Philippines	—	—
Portugal	—	3,064
Puerto Rico	49,788	27,869

Fees and Dues Received (Contd.)
From 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001 (In Rupees)

Name of Section	1999-2000	2000-2001
Russia	11,632	—
Scotland	23,880	20,833
Slovenia	4,332	480
Spain	36,293	28,799
Sri Lanka	692	1,176
Sweden	—	20,900
Switzerland	—	—
Togo	—	1,983
USA	379,153	436,700
Uruguay	22,019	24,320
Venezuela	3,028	—
Wales	1,764	1,994
Lodges Attached to Adyar:		
Israel	—	13,884
Japan	15,668	8,484
Korea	1,409	—
Fellows-at-large		28,137
	1,160,709	2,080,570

THE THEOSOPHICAL

BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 31-3-2000	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2001	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	General Fund:			
28,144,446	Balance as per last Balance Sheet		28,531,761	
	Add: Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund		863,684	
111,968	<i>Add: Transfer from Adyar Library Fund</i>		—	
	<i>Add: Surplus for the Year</i>		<u>238,447</u>	29,633,892
28,531,761				
40,923,632	Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund			41,077,659
60,530,121	Other Funds	5		74,431,192
4,517,964	Current Liabilities and Provisions	6		4,406,114
134,503,478				<u>149,548,857</u>

CHENNAI
20-11-2001

SOCIETY,ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

AT 31ST MARCH 2001

As at 31-3-2000	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2001	
Rs. 15,749,860	Fixed Assets Investments:(At cost) In Scheduled Banks,Financial Institutions, Public Sector Undertakings and Units with Unit Trust of India and Other Mutual Funds.	1	Rs.	Rs. 15,725,286
110,577,667				122,257,842
3,332,013	Current Assets,Loans and Advances:	2	3,624,861	
1,894,067	Stocks		2,191,719	
1,925,473	Sundry Debtors	3	5,042,506	
1,024,398	Cash and Bank Balances	4	706,643	
8,175,951	Loans and Advances			11,565,729
134,503,478				149,548,857

Schedule Numbers 1 to 6 and Notes on Accounts form part of the Balance Sheet. This is Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

D. K. GOVINDARAJ
Hon. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-03-2000	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-03-2001
Rs.		Rs.
Departments:(Net Expenditure)		
182,994	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chamber	-12,450
751,127	Garden	923,984
4,161,052	Maintenance	3,867,597
5,095,173		4,779,131
Charitable Work:		
113,342	Animal Welfare	240,382
1,219,029	Education	1,171,804
81,058	Welfare Grants	95,305
136,608	Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	140,586
56,800	School Fees and Books	62,900
16,766	Social Welfare Work	63,623
22,140	Others	365,600
1,645,743		2,140,200
650,502	<i>Less : Transfer from other Funds</i>	250,366
995,241		1,889,834
Propagation of Theosophy:(Net Expenditure)		
704,049	Adyar Library and Research Centre	749,922
29,895	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter	3,367
91,747	Vasanta Press	183,488
1,138	School of the Wisdom	48,800
58,638	T. S. Worker's Training Camp	27,770
151,170	Information and Public Relations	31,110
27,837	Archives and Museum	139,552
1,064,475	Theosophy Science Centre	4,900
32,744		1,188,909
1,031,731	<i>Less : Transfer from Other Funds</i>	27,770
		1,161,139
International Offices:		
95,261	President and Vice-President	84,917
277,581	Treasurer	310,346
201,516	Secretary	230,512
574,358		625,775
Establishment:		
130,371	Headquarters	142,523
65,985	General Manager's Office	87,403
221,811	Housekeeping Department	189,689
151,059	Sanitation Department	182,512
921,222	Security Department	869,019
1,490,448		1,471,146
9,186,951	c / f	9,927,025

SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001

Year ended 31-03-2000	INCOME	Year ended 31-03-2001	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
Propagation of Theosophy:(Net Income)			
693,497	The Theosophical Publishing House	1,251,550	
659,077	Vasanta Press	—	
185,361	General Donations	153,420	
7,731,021	Interest	8,550,545	
1,160,709	Fees and Dues	2,064,566	
105,000	License Fees	100,000	
313,648	Miscellaneous Receipts	231,400	
<hr/>			
10,848,313	c / f	12,351,481	

THE THEOSOPHICAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-03-2000	EXPENDITURE— <i>Contd</i>	Year ended 31-03-2001
Rs. 9,186,951	b/f	Rs. 9927025
	Other Expenses:	
8,547	Insurance	4545
117,600	Legal and Court Expenses	39837
49,012	Audit Fees	49690
36,452	Rates and Taxes	9302
1,195	Bank Charges	2432
1,056,098	Depreciation	1035324
19,514	Motor Car Expenses	30501
97,597	Miscellaneous	98098
	Loss On Account Of Redemption Of Units	116280
	Adyar Estate Improvement Fund	800000
1,386,015		2186009
275,347	Surplus transferred to General Fund	238447
10,848,313		12351481

SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001

Year ended 31-03-2000	INCOME— <i>Contd.</i>	Year ended 31-03-2001
Rs. 10,848,313	b/f	Rs. 12,351,481
10,848,313		12,351,481

Notes on Accounts form part of this Accounts. This is the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in our report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

D. K. GOVINDARAJ
Hony. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2003

EXPENDITURE		INCOME
	Rs.	Rs
Departments (Net Expenditure)		
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	122,000	Propagation of Theosophy
Garden	852,000	Theosophical Publishing House 403,000
Maintenance	4,649,000	General Donations 300,000
		Interest 8,000,000
Charitable Work		
Animal Welfare	600,000	Membership Fees and Dues 1,800,000
Education	3,000,000	Licence Fees 120,000
Welfare Grants	150,000	Miscellaneous Receipts 300,000
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	200,000	Net Deficit 105,000
TOS International	30,000	
School Fees and Books	90,000	
Social Welfare Work	130,000	
Others	36,000	
Transfer from Other Funds	(3,500,000)	
Propagation of Theosophy		
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,073,000	
<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	85,000	
Vasanta Press	151,000	
School of the Wisdom	100,000	
Book Gift	500,000	
Workers' Training Camp	25,000	
Information and Public Relations	50,000	
Archives and Museum	300,000	
Theosophy Science Centre	25,000	
Transfer of funds	(1,500,000)	
International Officers		
President and Vice-President	100,000	
Treasurer	360,000	
Secretary	200,000	
Establishment		
Headquarters	170,000	
General Manager's Office	100,000	
Housekeeping Department	250,000	
Sanitation Department	225,000	
Security Department	1,000,000	
Other Expenses		
Insurance	20,000	
Legal Expenses	50,000	
Audit Fees	60,000	
Rates and Taxes	150,000	
Motor Car Maintenance	50,000	
Miscellaneous	120,000	
Depreciation	1,000,000	
Bank Charges	5,000	
	11,028,000	11,028,000

HEADQUARTERS

**ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA**

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2001**Executive Committee:**

1.	Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
2	Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Vice-President</i>
3	Mrs Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary</i>
4.	Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
5.	Mr K. Visvanathan	<i>General Council Member</i>
6.	Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>
7.	Mr R. M. Tolani	
8.	Mr K. P. Shenoy	
9.	Mr Conrad Jamieson	

General Manager		Major Arjun Gopalaratnam
Adyar Library	<i>Director</i>	Dr K. K. Raja
	<i>Librarian</i>	Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam
Bhajanasala		Mrs Sudha Natarajan
Garden		Mr J. Suresh
Housekeeping		Mrs Radha Muthiah
Information		Mr Conrad Jamieson
Leadbeater Chambers		Mrs Uma Nilakanta
Maintenance		Mr P. S. Ramakrishna
Medical Service		Dr S. D. Inbaraj
Museum and Archives		Mr Jan Kind
Sanitation		Mrs Vijaya Ravindran
School of the Wisdom	<i>Directors</i>	Mr Pedro Oliveira (Jan.-Feb.)
		Mr Conrad Jamieson (Nov.-Dec.)
Security		Mr J. Suresh
Theosophical Publishing		
 House		Mr D. K. Govindaraj
 Vasanta Press		Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

<i>Chairman</i>	President, TS
<i>Secretary</i>	Miss Sumana Kale
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr K. Visvanathan

Olcott Memorial School:	<i>Headmistress</i>	Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayana
HPB Hostel		Mrs Kamala Devi
Social Welfare Centre		Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan
Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary		Dr P. D. Jagannathan
Vocational Training Centre for Women		Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2001

National Societies and Sections		29	Section / Area	No. of Lodges/ Study Centres	No. of Members
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))		12	26. Indonesia	10	229
Presidential Agencies		10	27. Ireland, North	1	21
Total Lodges and Study Centres		1,081	28. Ireland, Republic	1	24
Total Membership 2000		31,121	29. Italy	52	1,354
Total Membership 2001		31,996	30. Ivory Coast	3	40
			31. Mexico	21	221
			32. Netherlands	14	527
			33. New Zealand	15	1,091
			34. Norway	5	34
1. Africa, East & Central		12	35. Pakistan	1	124
2. Africa, South		5	36. Peru	2	42
3. Africa, West		15	37. Philippines	15	303
4. America, Central		3	38. Portugal	11	227
5. Argentina		28	39. Puerto Rico	7	114
6. Asia, South East		10	40. Russia/Ukraine	1	16
7. Australia		12	41. Scotland	5	205
8. Austria		3	42. Slovenia	4	58
9. Belgium		8	43. Spain	14	332
10. Bolivia		8	44. Sri Lanka	8	137
11. Brazil		51	45. Sweden	6	162
12. Canada		4	46. Switzerland	5	82
13. Chile		4	47. Togo	2	26
14. Colombia		8	48. USA	119	5,108
15. Costa Rica		5	49. Uruguay	5	64
16. Cuba		12	50. Venezuela	2	28
17. Denmark		1	51. Wales	2	34
18. England		44		1,076	31,816
19. Finland		26			
20. France		30			
21. Germany		7	1. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1	63
22. Greece		6	2. Japan	2	84
23. Hungary		1	3. Korea	2	15
24. Iceland		8	4. Fellows-at-Large	-	18
25. India		434		5	180
		13,413			

Lodges Attached to Adyar

1. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1	63
2. Japan	2	84
3. Korea	2	15
4. Fellows-at-Large	-	18
	5	180

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

There was a steady increase in the sale of publications during the year. The distribution network in India and abroad was enlarged. There is great scope for the dissemination of our literature, in which all members, Lodges, Sections and Federations could actively participate.

The TPH took part in several book fairs on an experimental basis, so that more members of the public could get acquainted with our literature. Plans are being made to participate in more book fairs in selected cities in India, and we look forward to the assistance of the Indian Lodges and Federations to explore the possibility of making our books far more widely read, not only by members but also by many others.

Our publications as well as those of the Adyar Library were donated to the major libraries in India. During the coming year, other libraries will also receive our books as gifts. Donations have been made to several Institutions

in African countries, as well as in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and a few South American countries. We plan to extend this activity to other developing countries according to their actual needs.

Among the many books reprinted were *The Solar System* by A.E. Powell, *The Lotus Fire* by George S. Arundale and the *Bhagavadgītā*, with text and translation. In the next two to three years we hope to make many more titles available and keep all important titles in print for the use of members and the public.

There has been a significant improvement in the quality of our magazines. *The Theosophist* and *Wake Up India* are heavily subsidized; therefore improvement in circulation should be possible and it will be our endeavour to promote these valuable magazines vigorously.

Mr D.K. Govindaraj
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma, who worked for many decades in the library and retired in 1988 at the age of 95, died on 5 September 2001. He had collaborated with Pandit Subrahmanya Sastri in the production of the *Sangitaratnākara* of Śārngadeva and the commentaries of Kallinātha and Simhabhupāla. Under V. Krishnamacharya he collaborated in the production of *Visnusmṛti* with Nanda Pandita's commentary, *Alamkā-*

rasamgraha of Amrtānandayati and *Lakṣmitantra*. He also prepared the Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil Manuscripts in the Adyar Library, and did other valuable work.

We are happy to have the assistance of Pandit Seshadrinatha Sastri on our staff. He retired from the position of Principal of the Sanskrit College in Madras, and is making a valuable contribution to the Library's work.

The following books were reprinted:

1. *Hathayoga Pradipikā of Svātmārāma* with the commentary Jyotsnā of Brahmananda and English translation.
2. *Lakṣmitantra* edited by V. Krishnamacharya.

New publications were:

1. *Madhyamakahṛdaya of Bhavya*, complete text in Devanāgari edited by Chr. Lindtner.
2. The Adyar Library Bulletin, volume 64/2000
3. *Patanjali's Metaphysical Schematic: Puruṣa and Prakṛti in the Yoga Sutra* by Ian Whicher.
4. *Bhavya on Mimāṃsā* (Bhavya's *Madhyamakahṛdaya* IX Introduction and English translation) by Chr. Lindtner.

Several works are in the press including:

1. *The Vaisnava Upanisad-s with commentary of Śri Upanisad Brahmayogin*, Translated into English by A.A. Ramanathan.
2. *Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K.V. Sarma.

Other works in the press for reprinting are:

1. *The Samnyāsa Upanisad-s*, English translation based on the commentary of Upanisad Brahmayogin, Adyar Library Series (RLS)
2. *Vedānta Paribhāṣā*, edited with English translation by S.S.

Syryanarayana Sastri, Adyar Library Series 34.

3. *Laghu Yoga Vāsistha*, English translation by K. Narayanaswami Aiyer, Adyar Library General Series 3.
4. *Gangeśa's Philosophy of God Iśvaravāda* Section of the *Tattvacintāmani* with English translation and commentary Adyar Library Series 115.

During the year under report, 1533 books were accessed, of which 350 were purchased, 104 were received from the President's office, 86 from the Theosophical Publishing House, and 9 from the Publishing House in Wheaton. A further 979 were received in exchange for our publications or as reviews and gifts from others. Out of these 1618 books were catalogued.

The work of computerizing the catalogue continues. Stocktaking was done in the Oriental Section. Repair and conservation work goes on continuously.

The supply of photocopies, loan of books and other services to scholars, borrowers and readers went on as usual.

During the year 1010 visitors from India and overseas came to the library. Scholars who availed themselves of the facilities came from Moscow University, Oxford, several universities in the United States and India.

Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The first session of the year 2001 was held from 29 January to 28 February. The theme was 'The Theosophy of the Mystics', which attracted thirty-five students from India and abroad. The Director was Mr Pedro Oliveira, former International Secretary, currently working for the Australian Section. The overseas students came from Germany, Switzerland, Slovenia, France, Singapore, USA, Australia, New Zealand and Korea.

The talks and discussions centred round the mystics of both the East and West, including Jalaluddin Rumi, Meister Eckhart, St. John of the Cross, Ramana Maharshi, Martin Buber and Krishnamurti. Selections were made from mystic poets like Blake, Wordsworth, Shelley, Emily Bronte and Browning. The theosophical dimension of the teachings was explored in order to reach a deeper understanding of the human being as well as the cosmos and the divine ground.

From 12 to 14 October 2001, Mr Vicente Hao Chin, National President of the Philippines Section, conducted a seminar on 'Self-Transformation' formulated by the Philippines Section. More than seventy participants, including members and non-members, attended all the sessions. The Director gave talks on the dual nature of the human mind. The conditioning of the lower mind, which is impelled by desires, beliefs and assumptions, drives people to react to situations in daily

life. On the other hand, the higher mind enshrines universal values, representing the divine. Observation of the difference between the two helps to align the lower to the higher in a harmonious way and brings about transformation. The talks were accompanied by breathing exercises and training in awareness, bringing about relaxation at different levels. Mrs Gowri Govindaraj assisted the Director, and the participants learned about effective communication, the art of listening, right relationships and so forth.

The third session of the School of the Wisdom covered the period from 5 November to 14 December 2001 and was conducted by Mr Conrad Jamieson, also a former International Secretary, on the theme 'Be in Love with Life, Awaken to its Fullness'. Studies were based on the following books, *From Mind to Supermind*, *Seek out the Way*, *Man, Visible and Invisible*, *Life is for Living*, *I am All*, and *The Supreme Splendour*. Colour slides were presented on thought forms and also on sound and music forms to illustrate that we grow in awareness in the inner and unseen worlds. Much depends on our understanding of the purpose of our incarnation if we are to be directors of our journey towards fulfilment.

In both the first and third sessions, students made presentations relevant to the subject. Visiting lecturers were invited to give talks. The students also learned about the International

Headquarters and gained a world view of the Society's work. Stress was laid on becoming examples of theosophical

teachings in everyday life.

Mrs Dolores Gago
International Secretary

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

The Museum and Archives Department is in a transitional period. In September, a new phase began with thorough inventories and an analysis preparatory to starting reorganization. There are many items, particularly art objects, donated to the Society that are in storage and need to be properly exhibited.

Every year an exhibition is specially presented for delegates to the International Convention. At other times students of the School of the Wisdom and special visitors are shown material of interest.

We hope to employ additional staff and make a comprehensive effort to classify and catalogue all documents

according to the classification system designed by Mrs Izar Tauceda from Brazil, a qualified librarian who prepared it during her stay at Adyar. Computerization will be a long-term project, since information about a large number of documents will have to be entered. There is also need to restore and preserve the large number of documents using the best techniques and also to scan them and store the contents on CD Rom discs.

Very much work has to be done to modernize the Department and maintain essential standards.

Mr J. N. Kind
Officer in Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial High School: Free education has been provided in Tamil to 780 boys and girls in 23 sections since the school reopened on 11 June 2001. The teachers, 43 in number, are not only teaching the students, but inculcating right values in them. Twenty teachers are working on lesson plan projects on computers donated by the 'School Net' organization. These plans include power point, presentation, internet browsing, downloading material etc. This has improved the teachers' pedagogical depth. They also visited the Rishi Valley School

and Rural Centres of the Krishnamurti Foundation and observed their environmental activities and classes in languages and mathematics. This educational field visit was possible because of the assistance of Miss Ahalya Chari and guidance from Mr. G. Gautama. The 'library hour' has improved the general knowledge of the students as well as their textbook studies.

All students are given a free vegetarian breakfast and lunch, with suitable nutrients for the growing age. They are also given three sets of

uniforms free, of which one is provided by the Theosophical Society and the other two by the State Government. Textbooks, notebooks and stationary are also provided by the Theosophical Society except for 15% of the cost which is given by the State Government.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides from VII, VIII and IX standards made use of the Besant Scout Camp Centre. Bulbul and cub activities go on from IV to VI standard, and include gardening and maintaining cleanliness in the school grounds. They learn the value of good citizenship and cooperation. The junior resource room has become an effective aid to learning because of facilities to learn through games and audio-visual aids.

Students are becoming more conscious about their studies; hence academic improvement is being achieved, as well as attention to good behaviour and curricular and co-curricular activities. Some students find mathematics a difficult subject, while a few find English difficult to study. Special coaching is given to IX and X classes. Still there is room for improvement.

Much maintenance work was done to improve the school buildings, including installing fans in the classrooms to improve the ventilation.

HPB Hostel: The hostel had 27 boarders at the beginning of the year. The ages ranged from 10 to 17 years. Two students appeared for the School Board examinations in October 2001 and left the hostel.

Mrs Uma Kannan and Mrs Kamala Devi were appointed Warden and Assistant Warden respectively. The

students sweep the rooms and the area around; wash their clothes; clean their plates after food; play games after school hours; watch television and complete their homework. Relationships among younger and older boys have improved and they all express themselves freely.

Health check-up is done in the school. Sick students are treated by the TS Medical Officer Dr. Inbaraj, and are referred to specialists when the need arises.

This year, six boys came from an orphanage in the town of Guntur, run by Theosophists, to participate in the Convention and exhibit their craft items for sale. They stayed in the HPB hostel. Acceptance of each other and friendly behaviour on both sides proved that language is no barrier for relationship. Fifteen boys from the hostel helped in the canteen and with the sale of bulletins during the Convention.

The hostel building was renovated and a new kitchen slab was installed. Some minor problems will be attended to in the near future.

Social Welfare Centre: This year 120 boys and girls in the age group of 2 to 5 were enrolled in the Balwadi (Nursery). They stay in the Balwadi from 8a.m. to 3p.m. and learn English and Tamil alphabets and numbers; identify fruits, vegetables, animals, birds, shapes, etc. via action songs; learn writing, painting and handwork by the play-way method. They are served porridge, special nutritious food and bananas for breakfast and lunch. Dr. R. Revathi, helped by the staff, did a general health check-up in July 2001, and conducted a clinic three days a

week. She also held a parents and staff meeting in September 2001.

The children celebrated Adyar Day and national and religious festivals. They made a trip to the TS scout camping centre for nature study, and prepared an entertainment programme for Convention.

Vocational Training Centre: Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan is the Superintendent of the Social Welfare Centre and Vocational Training Centre.

This year 12 students joined the 'Tailoring and Dress Designing Course' which commenced on 16 July 2001 and ended on 17 January 2002. A tailoring instructor was appointed to teach the cutting and sewing of garments and decorative embroidery stitches. Field visits were conducted to various places to study different materials. At the end of the course, certificates were handed over by Mrs Marcia Markey from Ojai, California, USA, at a ceremony presided over by Mr. C.P. Robertson Dunn, General Secretary of the East and Central African Section.

The students' response was good and they have asked us to extend the course, which will be done.

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary gives preventive vaccinations, promotes animal health and treats sick animals. During the year enclosures were made to give more freedom to the animals, and an open shelter with wire fencing was created for larger animals like donkeys, sheep, horses and cows.

The whole place is septically clean. In-patient animals are fed thrice a day. Up to now, 16,354 animals have been treated as out-patients and about 400 as in-patients.

Dr P. D. Jagannathan, an experienced veterinarian, assisted by Dr Chinna Thurai Pandian, with Mr Narayanan, office manager, and 5 other staff members, are caring for the animals. A surgical theatre will start functioning in the near future.

Ms Sumana Kale
Secretary, Olcott Education Society

BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

During the year nineteen institutions availed themselves of the facilities in this camping centre, situated in a beautiful natural spot in Olcott Gardens, which is in the south-eastern end of the Society's estate. The aim of the centre is character-building and creating interest in the young boys and girls in protecting nature. More than two thousand scouts, guides and other children have benefited from camping in the centre and having close contact

with nature. One of the institutions to utilize our services was AIKYS which cares for disabled children.

It is our attempt to maintain the high ideals which Annie Besant tried to inculcate in the young when she started scouting in India, and which Dr Arundale promoted after her passing.

Mr Victor Frank
For Besant Scouting Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

This Order was founded by Annie Besant in 1908 in order to organize various lines of service as an active expression of the first Object of the TS. Much of social significance has been achieved by the Order over the decades in such fields as animal welfare and vegetarianism, education of the underprivileged and parenting, hunger and medical relief, ecology, planetary peace and healing. Significant sums of money have been donated around the world.

Mr Fernando Perez Martin has continued his support of the work in South America where the TOS is active or embryonic. Introductory material has been sent by him to all Spanish-speaking Sections. During her lecture tours in Latin America, Mrs Terezhina Kind has encouraged service work, and it is hoped that TOS groups can be started before long in Paraguay and Colombia. In this part of the world, members principally tackle poverty and related social problems, especially those of under-privileged children.

In Argentina, Silvia Blajer, National Director, reports that the TOS has been very active in supporting non-governmental organizations providing much clothing, food, bedding, medicines, toys and so on to the Salvation Army and similar organizations. Donations in cash and kind were also made to an animal welfare group.

In Chile, the newly established TOS has initiated work for family and health, animal welfare, ecology and so forth. The TOS healing ritual is performed regularly and 80 people have been on their list already.

In Cuba, teams have been formed for different kinds of work. A group of members is preparing to perform the healing ceremony in and outside Havana. Some members are meditating regularly for peace. Gifts have been made to people in need.

Fine work has been done by the TOS in East and Central Africa. In Kenya, the TOS has provided generous assistance to homeless children, abandoned girls and mothers and the elderly and disabled. It sponsors education and supports orphanages as well as arranging for talks to students on ethics and character building. Members visit the families of the bereaved, to share a Theosophical perspective on death. The healing ritual is performed on full moon days. The TOS in Tanzania organizes an annual education competition in schools on elocution and spiritual subjects.

In France the TOS is collecting funds to sponsor over 100 children including Tibetan refugees in India. Many boxes of clothes, medicines and books were sent to India, Togo, and the Order of Malta. After the earthquake in Gurjarat, India, the TOS collaborated with the Indian Embassy in Paris to organize a fund-raising concert, and about U.S. \$7,500 was sent to Adyar for relief work.

The Secretary of the TOS in India, Mr. P. K. Jayaswal, visited several regions; new groups were formed and activities were energized, resulting in an increase of members. Work centres largely around health care and education for the poor. Healing groups

have become more active and some new groups were formed. Many members donated money and clothing to the victims of the Gujarat earthquake.

In Italy there are currently 36 active groups. Nearly 100 needy children were sponsored and donations were given to educational work abroad. Nearly 250 members in 27 groups join in meditation for world peace, and 12 groups perform the healing ritual. Others participate in the work of the Indian Vegetarian Association and organize assistance for the sick and needy.

In Pakistan, in spite of much effort on the part of Mrs Fareeda Amir and her team there were major setbacks. Overseas supporters have withdrawn their aid, and the bombing of Afghanistan has had unfortunate repercussions. However twenty-five students were sponsored by members in Australia, and New Zealand sponsors ten. Generous donations were received from England, Canada and a few other countries. The TOS runs a Montessori School in which there are about 180 pre-school children. It also runs a free medical clinic in a slum in Karachi, paying the salaries of two doctors. Reading instruction is given to the poor in nine literacy centres and 42 families and elderly people lacking proper means of support have been helped.

In the Philippines, the TOS runs kindergarten schools for children from very low-income families in three cities, and also grants scholarships to students from poor families. Support to 227 students, of whom two-thirds were girls, was from primary to university

level. Youth camps for teenagers were organized in different cities to foster a sense of responsibility in the community. Land was purchased and construction started in October 2001 for the Golden Link School which will cater to the less privileged in a depressed area. The health and nutrition programme for malnourished children continues, providing nutritious food, multi-vitamins and medical support to severely underweight children.

In Spain, members participate in 'Circles for Peace' and meditate for peace. Three branches perform the healing ritual, and distribute used clothes to the needy. Money was sent to the TOS in Pakistan.

Birgitta Stalhammar was appointed National Director of the TOS in Sweden and collaborates with another organization to help a boarding school in Riga, Latvia. It also helped a community home which trains eight teenagers who have completed their years at the boarding school.

In the US there are seven active departments in the TOS for animal welfare, arts and music, ecology, family healing, peace and social service. News about their work appears in the TOS journal *For the Love of Life*. The National Director, Mrs Jean Gullo, coordinates the work of the departments and edits the journal. The healing network led by Susan Stumpf sends names daily to the many individuals and groups who perform the healing ceremony.

Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin
International Secretary

**REPORTS OF
SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES,
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,
PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.**

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,
edited or condensed.)

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

This Section comprises Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda, where Assistant General Secretaries have been appointed. Membership in Kenya and Tanzania has increased by six and nineteen respectively. Zambian membership has fallen due to economic conditions and the exodus of Asian members. Uganda is doing well but lost two members who emigrated to the US.

In Kenya four active Lodges meet regularly and three less active lodges occasionally. One lodge is being revived. Discussion groups also meet in three places. Thirty persons attended the annual weeklong residential seminar held in December. The Theosophist is distributed to many libraries and universities.

In Tanzania, Dar-es-Salaam lodge meets twice weekly and also holds meetings for a ladies' group, monthly

healing sessions and (once weekly) the Bharat Samaj Puja. There was no report from Kilimanjaro Lodge.

In Zambia there are two active lodges and three active discussion groups. Uganda has one Lodge, meeting monthly, supported by members from Kenya. Programmes were broadcast on Uganda Radio.

In Tanzania and Zambia debates and competitions were held on Theosophical subjects at secondary schools. There are well-stocked theosophical bookstalls.

The National Lecturer, Reuben Thuku, visited various lodges and educational institutions in Kenya and Uganda, attracting audiences of 60 to 80 persons.

Mr C. P. Robertson-Dunn
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTHERN

The General Secretary attended the first ever 'All African Convention' held in Nairobi in October 2001, when it was decided to form the Pan African Theosophical Federation (PATF) with myself as the first Chairman.

Four members of our Section participated in the World Congress in Sydney, after which my wife Anne and I visited New Zealand. Membership has been slowly increasing during the past six years from 245 to 287 in 2001. Several good members in Pretoria,

Durban and Harare passed away during the year. These stalwarts who gave so much to the Society will be sorely missed.

Our TOS work continues with counselling people in difficulties and giving donations to the various charitable organizations. Johannesburg Lodge has been involved in a project to uplift the underprivileged in Soweto Black Township.

Pretoria Lodge suffered a burglary, but continues to be strong.

Johannesburg Lodge has a computerized system for recording the books and controlling lending. Durban Lodge is stable, and continues its programme of lectures and studies. Capetown Lodge has had to struggle in spite of good public lectures and other activities. Harare Lodge has few members and meets informally. Lenasia Centre is continuing steadily.

I visited, together with my wife, Durban and Johannesburg Lodges and met most of the members there.

The first PATF newsletter has been published and distributed, and a website has been created for the Federation.

Our next Convention will be held in Pretoria during Easter weekend 2002.

Mr T. G. Davies
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

The Section continues to maintain 15 Lodges and 12 study centres. There was a slight increase in the number of members which now stands at 327. Most of the members whose annual dues were in arrears have paid up. The majority of members (184) are in Ghana; Nigeria has 107; Cameroon 30; and Liberia, where conditions are still extremely difficult, has 6.

Brother Emmanuel Michael Affram, who joined the Theosophical Society on 10 February 1936, and held various positions including that of Organizing Secretary of the Federation before it became a Section, died in July at the age of 90.

A three-day course for workers, directed by Bro. I.K. Zaney was held from 3–6 March on 'Yoga – the means of attaining the goal of human existence'. Several important texts were used and the 30 participants discussed all the aspects of the subject. It was proposed that the workers' course be renamed 'School

of the Wisdom' and made open to non-members also.

The annual convention was held at the end of July in Accra, and the theme was 'The Theosophical Society and Members' Responsibility'. Discussions dealt with what membership entails, the inner purpose of the Theosophical Society and what constitutes theosophical work. The session was reported to have been both interesting and stimulating.

The General Secretary visited Lagos in Nigeria in August; members from Taimni Lodge, Uyo, in Eastern Nigeria, also participated. It was agreed that Nigeria should send at least one delegate to attend the annual convention of the Section held in Accra.

Books were donated to the Lodges in Uyo and Lagos. An anonymous donor supplied books from the Adyar TPH. which were sold and proceeds were used for TS work.

Lodges are meeting regularly and lectures and workshops are held.

Publicity was improved during the year and so was the quality of Lodge programmes. The Central Library at

Accra was used in a very satisfactory way by the public.

Mr Paul B. Kwakyi
General Secretary

ARGENTINA

A congress was held from 12 – 15 April 2001 in Buenos Aires, with the theme 'The T.S. in the New Age'. It was very fruitful. In Rosario, an inter-lodge meeting was held every month to explore 'The Essential Work of the TS Today'. In San Lorenzo the subject for study and reflection was 'The Need for Change'. The programme was introduced in a public lecture by a young theosophist, Mr Pablo Sender.

Every year, in Casilda, a one-day silent retreat has been held, this time with the theme 'Silence as the Methodology for Growing Up'.

The General Secretary, Mr Jorge Cesano, visited several Lodges. Mr Juan Vinas also travelled to lecture in various places, and several others participated in this programme of lecturing.

At the Theosophical Centre at San Rafael, three well-attended Summer Schools were held, which were also coordinated by Mr Pablo Sender. Other young members helped to make an inventory of three hundred books received from the late Mr. R. L. Barbosa and his wife. In the third week, participants, young and old, prepared their own meals, cleaned their rooms,

cooked their food and at the same time seriously studied the *Bhagavadgitā*. In the winter, a three-day Silent Retreat took place, coordinated by Juan Cassibba and Mrs Paulina Palmeri with reflections on *Light on the Path*. This was followed by a week's study of *The Inner Path*, also led by a young theosophist, Mr Damian Pereyra.

The Young Theosophists held national meetings in several places. They took responsibility for the organization of the congress in Buenos Aires and elsewhere, and produced their own magazine entitled *No Frontiers*, with articles written by themselves.

An e-mail group has started a National 'Lodge' in which every TS member can take part.

Dharma Lodge in Buenos Aires, the oldest in the Section, founded on 13 September 1901 after Col. Olcott's visit to Argentina, celebrated its 100th anniversary. In Casilda, a small piece of ground was bought and the construction of a new lodge building has commenced.

Mr Jorge Cesano
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

As planned earlier, the World Congress of the Theosophical Society was held in Sydney from 13–19 January 2001. It was a significant event for members of the Australian Section and our world-wide fraternity, providing a unique opportunity to comprehend the global nature of the TS, as 516 members from 39 countries attended. It replaced the Annual Convention of the Section, but the annual Business Meeting was held on 16 January 2001 during the Congress.

The National President gave three training sessions at the Australian School of Theosophy on 'The History, Structure and Function of the Theosophical Society'; 'Public Speaking'; and 'Chairmanship and Leadership'; she also visited various other Centres. Pedro Oliveira and Dara Tatray were supporting lecturers, as was the Educational Coordinator, Linda Oliveira, who spoke in numerous places, and also addressed members of Singapore Lodge. In addition, she updated and distributed the list of videos to all TS Centres. Following the World Congress, Mrs Radha Burnier visited eight TS Centres and Miss Joy Mills, four.

The School of Theosophy, held from 21 – 28 April 2001 and led by Pedro Oliveira, had as a theme, 'The Theosophy of the Mystics' and was very successful. Students from most of the States attended and as usual sponsorship was given for a student from another country in the Indo-Pacific Region, namely Mr Lovorn Ang from the Philippines.

Work is in progress at the new Canyonleigh Centre. On 8 February 2001 about 20 members visited this property generously donated by Mr Bill Bolitho, and the International President dedicated the Centre to the TS and named the house 'Bolitho House'. Trees were planted on this occasion by Mr Bolitho and Mrs Burnier.

Theosophical postcards and bookmarks were printed and distributed at the World Congress and to Centres around the country. Posters were placed at five railway stations in Sydney asking 'Is the quality of your life the outcome of your thoughts?' A donation was made to Singapore Lodge of 500 copies of the booklet 'Looking for Answers'; many more copies were donated in other places. Two new leaflets, 'Theosophy and Science' and 'The Spirit of the Theosophical Society', were redesigned and edited, as they are constantly in demand.

On 31 August there were 1341 members in the TS in Australia. Of these 128 members are attached directly to Headquarters. These National Members all receive a copy of *Light on the Path* and the new leaflet *The Spirit of the Theosophical Society*.

Our TOS has supported various charitable bodies such as the TOS in Pakistan and East Africa, the Olcott School, HPB Hostel, the Animal Dispensary at Adyar, as well as the Educational Peace Studies in the Philippines.

There are three active Round Table Groups in which young members study the Ancient Wisdom

in ways appropriate to their age, cooperate with other organizations in undertaking humanitarian projects and perform simple ceremonies which stimulate the spiritual nature. Their annual national camps have been popular.

The Theosophy-Science Group organized a session at the World Congress, prepared a leaflet on Theosophy/Science for the Section and continued to publish a newsletter, produced by Dr Hugh Murdoch, three times a year; it circulates all over the world. A new group now meets regularly in Adelaide in addition to the one in Sydney.

This is my final report as National President and I express appreciation for the support I have received over my six years in office. Mrs Linda Oliveira has been elected to take office from January 2002. Our work could be summarized as 'The Transformation of Human Consciousness'. As HPB said; There is a power behind the Society which will give us the strength we need, which will enable us to move the world if we will but unite and work as one mind, one heart'. This concept of how we work together is the thought I would leave with you.

Mrs Beverley Champion
National President

BELGIUM

The same eight lodges as before have been active, four in Brussels and four in the provinces. Of these, two are Dutch speaking: in Antwerp and Gent. Public lectures and study groups, particularly on the books of HPB and Taimni, and videos and books on Krishnamurti were popular. There is a regular study course in Theosophy in the three French-speaking towns.

Professor Richard Brooks visited Brussels and gave lectures on the path

according to Shinto, Lao Tsu and Confucius. Professor Krishna spoke in Brussels on 'Knowledge, Wisdom and the Art of Living' and 'Creativity in Education'. The Belgian philosopher, Michel des Fontaines, gave a series of lectures on Religion and Philosophy in Europe.

Our membership now stands at 120.

Dr H. van der Hecht
General Secretary

BRAZIL

The total number of members at the end of the year was 875, showing a decrease of 28. The Study Centre in Curitiba was chartered as a Lodge named 'Libertacao'. A Study Centre

named after Geoffrey Hodson was founded in Batatais, Sao Paulo. Three other Study Centres were dissolved during the year. Forty-four members were exempted from

paying annual dues and others were permitted to pay in instalments.

A Summer School on 'The Ideals of Theosophy', a Winter School on *The Mahatma Letters* and a School of Theosophy on 'Hindu Mythology applied to Daily Life' with Dr Ravi Ravindra were all held in Brasilia. Besides these, regional conferences were organized in all the Regions. Public lectures were given in several cities by R. Lindemann, Mr Alfredo Puig and others, and a band of lecturers visited the Lodges and Study Centres all over the country.

The National Library is still in the process of reorganization under the care of the Librarian, Mrs Terezinha Kind, and Paulo Ramos. Theosophical pamphlets are printed and distributed free to Lodges and Centres, and all lectures and seminars are filmed and used for four television channels in Brasilia. The videotapes are sold to members and others. Courses on Theosophy at various levels as well as a course for speakers are available from

the Department of Education and Study which also publishes a quarterly bulletin.

The following books were published during the year: *Apollonius of Tyana* by G.R.S. Mead; *The Yogic Ascent to Spiritual Heights* by Geoffrey Hodson; *The Ideals of Theosophy* by Annie Besant; and *The Mahatma Letters to A.P. Sinnett*.

The TOS is directed by Miss Eliane Carmanim Lime from Porto Alegre. The two Centres – Raja Centre on the outskirts of Sao Paulo and the Pythagoras Institute in the heart of the same city – held regular programmes as usual. The home for orphaned children shelters 20 children and is supported by members. Mrs Zeneida Cereja da Silva is the Director and is assisted by several volunteers.

Mr Ricardo Lindemann
General Secretary

COLOMBIA

The Section has been very active in four areas: 1) Educational training and work, 2) Members, Lodges and Groups, 3) Environment, 4) Finance. Every Sunday there are programmes in Bogota for the public, lectures, workshops, videos, and sometimes artistic and cultural presentations. A group of about 10 members present these lectures, and periodically a training programme is held to prepare other lecturers.

Under the direction of Mr Gabriel Burgos, twice a year a course called 'An Approach to Theosophy', consisting of two-hour sessions, is held over nine weeks. The course comprehensively covers the different avenues of the search for truth; the universe and the various states of matter; the divine manifestation and the development of consciousness; evolution, life after death, reincarnation and karma, Dharma good and evil; the TS,

its history, objects and character; the veils of our consciousness and the way to the Holy Ones.

Special attention was given to meditation and courses were held according to the advice of theosophical teachers. Disciplining of the mental, emotional and physical bodies and other aspects of self-education with exercises on attention and observation and other means of expanding consciousness were included.

The Section's magazine, published bi-monthly, consists mainly of articles

from *The Theosophist* and other publications. The important theosophical days were celebrated. Study Groups took up varied subjects and books including *The Voice of the Silence*, *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Ancient Wisdom* and *Self-Culture*.

As from 2 May 2001, members in Venezuela have been attached to the TS in Colombia.

Mrs Nelly Medina de Galvis
General Secretary

CUBA

The Lodges in our Section normally hold weekly members' meetings, but for some time owing to transportation difficulties they could only meet twice monthly. Arrangements have been made in the Headquarters building for all the Lodges to meet weekly. Public meetings and Introductory Courses in Theosophy have been conducted every week on Saturdays, and now the public knows that there is a programme for them every week. The main themes for the public were: An approach to *The Secret Doctrine*; Why do we come to the TS?; Bhakti Yoga; Some Thoughts on the Upanishads; the Life and Work of Krishnamurti; the Twelve Labours of Hercules; An Approach to Tony De Mello; Time and Space in the Light of Occultism; Plato's Life and Doctrines; Archaic Symbolism, The Way to Oneself; Plotinus; Some Thoughts about Karma; Cycles as per HPB; The Mysterious Earth (based on HPB's writings) and so on.

Two Study Groups for members worked on *The Secret Doctrine*. Books and themes studied at Lodge meetings were *The Ultimate Reality*; *At the Feet of the Master*; *Man, God and the Universe*; *The Yoga of the Bhagavad-gītā*; *The Key to Theosophy*; *Human Regeneration*; and some articles written by N. Sri Ram.

The theme of the Annual Convention was 'In Tune with the Universe'. A new General Secretary took office during the Convention and later visited Lodges outside Havana. Last year, repairs were done to the building and at present we are repairing the furniture.

We received forty books and some pamphlets about Buddhism donated by the Buddha Educational Foundation in Taiwan.

A young Theosophist Group in Havana uses discussions and visual presentations for their study; they also like to go on excursions.

At the end of the year we had 12 lodges and 549 members.

Mrs Nilda Venegas Bernal
General Secretary

ENGLAND

The Information Department at headquarters organized a varied programme of activities, including 16 seminars, 34 public lectures and 8 courses. Special meetings were held to commemorate Foundation Day and Adyar Day. Sixty persons attended the former. Representatives of the Pasadena Theosophical Society and the United Lodge joined us. Short talks were given by a representative from each group, followed by a piano concert.

On Adyar Day, 50 persons gathered at headquarters for a programme on Indian dance and music and a slide-illustrated talk on our International Headquarters by Liz Parker. She explored how Adyar, the 'Flaming Heart of the Theosophical Movement', incorporates the values of the Ancient Wisdom in daily life. At the conclusion, a buffet of Indian food was provided by Wembley Lodge, North London.

Blavatsky Lodge and the Dhyana Centre continue to use Headquarters. The fortnightly programme of the former alternates public lectures with study sessions for members, the latter organizes meditation sessions. Attendance varies from nine to fifty-five for the afternoon seminars. The average for Sunday evening lectures was thirty-eight.

International lecturers gave programmes throughout England in the summer. They included Dr Richard Brooks, former Professor of Asian Philosophy at Oakland University in

Michigan, USA; Michael Gomes, Director, Emily Sellon Memorial Library of the New York Lodge, who has been doing work in our archives; and Swami Yogeshwarananda who has spent twenty five-years in Himalayan seclusion to study traditional wisdom. A comprehensive publicity campaign was launched in connection with these lecture tours. Advertisements were distributed by a professional body. Courses on Theosophy, which are a regular feature at Headquarters, included 'A Way to Self-Discovery' and *The Secret Doctrine*.

At Tekels Park, two weekends were devoted to exploring *The Secret Doctrine* and Modern Science and the Esoteric Philosophy. The Southern Federation held Residential Esoteric Conferences on 'A New Continent of Thought' and 'Ancient Egypt and the Tradition'. The Trans-Pennine Conference was held at Lancashire College, Chorley, with the theme 'Beauty in Nature and Form'. The North-Western and North-East Federations were also at Tekels Park for their Conference.

In November the organizers of the annual Healing Arts Exhibition in London allowed the use of the 'Quiet Room' to us free of charge, to make known the work of the TS and to lead meditations twice a day. Hundreds of leaflets and other material were handed out to visitors.

The Summer School was held at Winchester in the south of England after an interval of thirteen years, with more

than eighty members present and with the theme 'Theosophy: Its Potentialities for the Future', during which Geoffrey Farthing delivered the Blavatsky Lecture on 'Theosophy: its Beneficent Potentialities'.

Writers and students continue to use the library for research and study. A total of 1549 books were issued and 64 new books were added to the holdings.

The membership decreased by nine, but the English Section is alive and well. Lodges have been encouraged to advertise public meetings and considerable success has been achieved in creating local interest.

Mr Colin Price
General Secretary

FINLAND

Work has been going on as usual. Except in Helsinki and Turku, where the Lodges meet once a week, meetings are held twice a month to study theosophical books and also to hear lectures followed by discussion.

At the headquarters, the main subject we considered this year was the third Object of the Society. Many times the hall was filled to capacity. Blavatsky Lodge arranges summer lectures at the headquarters twice a month which are much appreciated.

The annual convention was held at Oulu in Northern Finland and Mr Yrjo Kumila was re-elected General Secretary for the next three years. Mrs Mirva Jaatinen was elected as Secretary in the place of Ms Tanja Finer.

The Summer School in Kreivila was well attended with Professor Richard Brooks as Guest Speaker, the theme being 'The Third Object of the Society'. In addition a Summer School weekend was held by Aurinko Lodge in Raahe in the North and by Tutkija Lodge in Lappeenranta in the East. HPB Lodge in Estonia organized their Summer School in August in a little

village in the middle of the country with about 40 people in attendance. A variety of subjects were considered in all the above.

A weekend with sister organizations was held in Kreivila in July, which was a special occasion with 80 participants.

Letters were sent to members twice a year along with articles for individual study. These were particularly appreciated by unattached members and those who could not attend lodge meetings. Among the articles were Radha Burnier's 'The Real Work of the Theosophical Society', Samdhong Rinpoche's *The Individual's Universal Responsibility* and one on the basic principles of the theosophical way of life according to HPB's *The Key to Theosophy*.

During the year the Section has published translations of three books, namely, A.P. Sinnett's *The Occult World*, Annie Besant's *The Path of Discipleship* and C.W. Leadbeater's *Man, Visible and Invisible*. Blavatsky Lodge in Helsinki published some books in collaboration with

Biokustannus Publishing Company. Our Executive Committee decided to donate a book on Damodar to all members of the Theosophical Society in Finland, while Blavatsky Lodge donated *The Key to Theosophy* to all members.

At the Helsinki headquarters, many improvements were made, such as installing bookshelves and new chairs, painting the building, and updating the library catalogue which includes about 4,000 books in Finnish, Swedish, English and German. The libraries of Lodges in twelve towns, including Tallinn in Estonia, were kept regularly open. The TS in Finland participated in

two Fairs and distributed leaflets, sold books and gave information. A meeting of Lodge Presidents was held in Central Finland in September where 14 Lodges out of the 26 were represented. There were discussions on the purpose of the TS, members' knowledge of Theosophy, the real meaning of Lodge work, brotherhood as a living reality and so forth. A special effort was made to encourage Lodges to coordinate lecture tours in the North, West and East of Finland. There is still much to be done in this direction.

Mr Yrjo Kumila
General Secretary

FRANCE

During the year our membership increased slightly, and the two Lodges – *Fraternité* in Rouen and *Saint-Jean* in Paris – which had been inactive for many years and were re-activated last year – held regular meetings from October 2000. In Paris activities remain the same. Five Lodges and three groups had regular programmes as usual.

The main activity outside the capital is in Marseille, where three lodges meet regularly and hold public lectures twice a month. Other active lodges in the Provinces are Châteauneuf-du-Faou (Brittany), Orleans, Le Mans, Reims, Rouen. In Lorient, Sète, Vaisakha (Congo) there are no regular meetings but contacts are maintained.

In addition to the public lectures there were two seminars in Paris: one conducted by Michel Chapotin was on 'Getting Old is a time for Trans-

formation' and the other by Phan-Chon-Ton was on 'Science and Theosophy.' A video programme called 'Homage to Krishnamurti', in which he speaks in French, was followed by a discussion conducted by Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu and drew a large audience.

Our magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*, was sent to all French-speaking members in Europe, to Quebec, Togo and the Ivory Coast, in addition to subscribers and libraries. As already reported, the archives in the Section were returned after being in the possession of Russia for several decades. It will take a long time to classify the papers.

Among new publications in French were *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram, *Self-Knowledge (Ātma Bodha)* by Sankaracharya, and *The Inner Life of Krishnamurti* by Aryel Sanat. Other books are reprinted when necessary.

The TOS arranges sponsorships and sends medicines and clothes especially to India and Africa.

Mrs Danielle Audoin
General Secretary

GERMANY

The annual Summer School of our Section was again held at Lippstadt at the end of July 2001, with about 50 participants. The theme 'The Divine Spirit within us' was explored in depth, especially by our guest of honour, the International Vice-President, Mary Anderson. Several members participated in the symposia which were held during the Summer School and which elicited a number of questions. The evening programmes included a video on the World Congress in Sydney. The auction of TS books was so popular that some bidders needed boxes to take home their treasures!

The work in the Lodges goes on regularly. During my visit to some of

them, I found members responding well to new approaches, depending on how these are presented. Two weekend meetings continued to be held in the North of Germany with about 20 members and sympathizers. The German magazine, *Theosophie Adyar*, is distributed in Europe and Namibia. The editorial team consists of members from far-away places, but carries on well in spite of this handicap.

Our membership now stands at 158. We will celebrate our Centenary during the Summer School in July 2002.

Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt
General Secretary

GREECE

All Lodges in our Section worked regularly.

We celebrated New Year's day and White Lotus day. All lectures and speeches were according to the theosophical ideological concept. Substantial work was done on comparative study.

Features of our work were published in our magazine *Ilosos*. A systematic promotion of theosophical topics and ideas is being achieved through this magazine, which is distributed to nearly 1,000 persons.

In cordial co-operation with Adyar, and with Miss Anderson's help and support, we have made significant progress towards the reprinting of *The Key to Theosophy*, which is expected to be ready by the end of this year.

An effort has been made to activate members with lectures and in other ways. The results were quite successful. New speakers were added to our Section, most of them of were young.

The annual General Meeting took place according to the Rules.

It was generally felt that by the end of the year there has been improvement in all the sectors of the Section.

During the summer months (June-September) a team of members continued to meet out of doors and discuss

several theosophical topics. The results in strengthening brotherhood were very satisfactory.

Mr Georgios P. Sivris
General Secretary

ICELAND

The Icelandic Section has been in the same house in the centre of Reykjavik since 1922. The work of renovating it was started ten years ago and will finish in January 2002. The lecture hall will be bigger and the library will have more space. The attic, which has not been used for many years, will become the office. All my available time has been spent on the rebuilding.

The activity of the Icelandic Section has been harmonious as usual. At Reykjavik, public lectures are held on Friday evenings from the beginning of October to White Lotus Day and are advertised in local newspapers, attracting an average of about fifty people.

The Summer School was held from 24–27 June at Heimar, Hvalfjardarstrond, with a tight programme of lectures, discussions and meditation, forty members attending.

'Open House' is also a weekly activity on Saturdays in the winter, when members and the public gather informally to have tea and coffee. Someone is invited to present a short programme which stimulates discussion or we show a video. Thus members and newcomers get to know

each other as well as the aims and activities of the Society.

On Sunday afternoons there is meditation for beginners, on Tuesday evenings study and discussion based on books on esoteric philosophy; and on Wednesday evenings silent meditation for an advanced group.

Three Lodges have been active outside the Reykjavik area with monthly and bi-monthly meetings. We feel that public interest in theosophical activities is growing and the Icelandic Section is very lively.

The Section magazine *Gangleri* was published as usual in autumn and spring; it has about 900 subscribers. Our newsletter *Mundilfari* was published three times during the year.

Translations of *The Voice of the Silence*, *Light on the Path*, and *The Seven Rays* by Ernest Wood and some books of Sigvaldi Hjalmarsson were reprinted. We hope to publish some new titles next year.

At the General Meeting held on 29 April 2001, Gisli Jonsson was elected General Secretary, with a board of five other members.

Mr Gisli V. Jonsson
General Secretary

INDIA

Mrs Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section at the time, mentioned in her Annual Report of 1976/77 that the Theosophical Society's work is to bring about a wholeness of vision by a study of the way in which the human mind functions. The root cause of man's problems lies in his own mental make-up and its self-deceits. J. Krishnamurti's teachings have profound relevance precisely because they unravel the root cause of man's suffering and throw light on the subject of bringing about total regeneration. Those remarks are relevant even today.

Every year the International Convention held in December provides an opportunity for our members to explore deeply the purpose and aim of life in the highly charged atmosphere of Adyar. On 27 December 2000 Miss Anderson, Vice-President, presided over the Indian Section Convention, which was inaugurated by Mrs Burnier who urged the Indian Section members to work for regeneration, starting from everyday activities.

We were greatly benefited by the participation and guidance of the International President who was the Chief Guest at the 69th annual conference of the Bombay Theosophical Federation in October 2000; the annual conference of the Madras Federation held in November 2000 and the 75th Conference of the Gujarat Federation which took place in Ahmedabad in November 2000. More than 300 members took part at the last-mentioned conference. In addition to

these, the President conducted the South Indian Study Camp at Adyar during Easter weekend, the theme being 'Theosophy and the Real Work of the Theosophical Society'. An attempt was made to understand fundamental concepts and their application in daily life, as well as some insights into the future of Theosophical work. The President was also the Chief Guest at the 92nd Annual Conference of the Karnataka Federation held in Kotturu in June 2001, which coincided with the Silver Jubilee of Kotturu Lodge. In July 2001, she was invited by the Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University to deliver the Besant Memorial Lecture. Her visit also provided an opportunity for the Indian Section to felicitate her on being re-elected President for a fourth term. Mangalore Lodge celebrated its Centenary in September 2001, with the President as special guest. On this occasion, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore University, a commemorative souvenir was released. Mrs Burnier spoke on 'Values for a New India and a New World'; gave interviews on television and for two of the major newspapers; and spoke to members of Mangalore Lodge and the Krishnamurti study group in Udupi. Early in the century, inspired by Annie Besant, several educational institutions were founded in Mangalore. During the President's visit she spoke to some of these 'Besant Institutions'.

The International Vice-President Miss Mary Anderson was the Chief

Guest at the 80th Annual Convention of the U.P. Federation held in Allahabad in October 2000, when she also addressed the students of the University. A little later in October, she was the Chief Guest at the Annual Conference of the Tamil Federation held in Tiruchi.

Mrs Dolores Gago, International Secretary, directed the study camp at the Section Headquarters in the first week of October. The book studied was HPB's *The Key to Theosophy* and 115 members from eleven Federations attended the camp. Mrs Gago also delivered the Annie Besant Memorial Lecture in the Benaras Hindu University on 'Dr. Annie Besant, a Prolific Writer'.

Mr. Vicente Hao Chin Jr., General Secretary of the Philippines Section, and Chief Editor of the *Theosophical Digest*, conducted workshops in several places: at Cuttack in February 2001 on 'Inner and Outer Peace'; and in Calcutta also in February on 'Self-Transformation'; and at Delhi on the same subject a few days later. He was assisted by Mrs Gowri Govindaraj.

I was at the Annual Conference of the UP and Telugu Federations and visited several of the Lodges in the Telugu area, I also frequently visited Indore, Dewas and Bangalore for administrative work and toured in the Karnataka area, visiting eight Lodges.

The publication of theosophical literature in regional languages is an important part of our work. The Gujarat Federation published several works; the Assam Federation reprinted *To those who Mourn*; the Bengal Federation published booklets on

Theosophy and the Theosophical Society; the Karnataka Federation brought out *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram; Utkal Federation published a translation of talks on *At the Feet of the Master*; the UP Federation published a book by its Secretary, Mrs G.K. Ajeet, on the life and work of the founders and the seven International Presidents, entitled *Padachinh* (Footprints). She frequently contributes articles on Theosophy to newspapers and broadcasts talks on All India Radio.

Several lodges and Federations have programmes for youth, debates, essay and elocution competitions, through which theosophical concepts are brought to their attention. Such subjects as World Citizenship and Universal Brotherhood as a panacea for evils were taken up. The Kerala Federation organized a youth camp in February in a wild life sanctuary in which nineteen boys and eight girls participated. They studied *Dr Annie Besant on Right Citizenship* and discussed what India needs in the fields of religion, education and ecology. Mr K. Dinakaran gave a lecture on 'Spiritual Ecology' to students and staff in the Kerala Agricultural University.

In spite of study programmes in many Lodges, a lack of depth is noticeable, which is reflected in the scarcity of thoughtful contributions to our journals and in the dearth of workers at all levels. Most of the Federations have study classes and weekends; at the Section Headquarters too, every October there is a week-long study course. Among the subjects taken up in different places were *The Mahatma Letters*, *Self-Culture*, *The*

Secret Doctrine and the Path of Devotion.

Some Federations participated in book fairs which offer the public an opportunity to get acquainted with theosophical literature. Among these Federations were Gujarat, Karnataka, Bengal and Utkal.

Four National Lecturers travelled throughout the country conducting study camps and lecturing not only in Lodges but in schools, colleges, Rotary Clubs etc. Brother S.V. Tyagi was the Chief Guest at the MP and Rajasthan and Bihar Federation conferences; he visited numerous places from Jodhpur in the West to Muzafarpur in Bihar. Dr A. Kannan was the Chief Guest at the Utkal and Bengal Federation Conferences. He visited eleven Lodges in the Marathi Federation, lectured in the Telugu area and conducted study courses in more than a dozen Lodges in Karnataka. Bro. P.K. Jayaswal was the Chief Guest at the Kerala Federation's Annual Conference, and also lectured in various other places. Dr N.C. Rumanujachary lectured in Rayalaseema, U.P., M.P. and Rajasthan. Besides the above-named there were many others who did similar work.

The number of members in our Section has gone up to 13,413, but numerical increase is not an indication of the strength of the Section. Only deeper study and understanding brings about a positive outlook in the members. It is also necessary to pay more attention to new members and give them guidance in their study. Care must be taken to have more

interaction with them so that they feel at home in theosophical work.

We are distributing 6200 copies of *The Indian Theosophist* to members in good standing. In order to recover the deficit on this account, it is proposed to have a subscription for the journal from January 2002.

Several stalwarts have passed to peace, including Sister Veeraben Dastur, who was an inspiration and a guide to members in Gujarat. She passed away in February 2001. Mrs Malti Pandya who lived and worked at Varanasi for many years and translated theosophical material into Hindi died in August. She instituted the study of Hindu scriptures by eminent scholars at the Headquarters from 1973. Another long-time resident at the Section Headquarters who passed away in November was Bro. P.N. Chakravarty who worked as Treasurer of the Indian Section and of the TOS for several years. Another stalwart was Mrs Norma Sastry, who worked for the TS from 1935 until her last days at the age of 91. She passed away in April. It is not possible to mention all departed members but our loving thoughts go to them on their onward journey.

I am glad to say that three dedicated members have joined the staff at Headquarters, namely Bro. S.V. Tyagi, Bro. Binay Krishna and his wife Prabha. Mr B. Krishna has taken over the Membership Department. Bro. Tyagi is trying to awaken interest in deeper study and to identify potential young workers. He is also Legal Adviser to the Section. In spite of these additions we need more qualified workers and hope they will come forward.

The TOS is very active in many places. Some members have also taken up the cause of animals by supporting 'Beauty without Cruelty'. This year the

Federations raised funds and gave relief to the Gujarat earthquake victims.

Mr S.M. Umakanth Rao
General Secretary

INDONESIA

The Indonesian Section celebrated its centenary in Semarang in April 2001, followed by a seminar on 'In Tune with the Universe', guests of honour being the International President and the General Secretary of the Netherlands Section, Mrs. Ali Ritsema. About 200 persons were present at the Centenary and about 70 at the seminar.

41 participants attended a dialogue by the Young Theosophists on 'Strengthening Genuine Brotherhood',

held in October 2000. The Young Theosophists also organized a Study Research Camp in March.

In February 2001 Brother Matius Ali spoke to Semarang Lodge on *The Secret Doctrine* and in March a group from Surabaya Lodge went to Bali to introduce Theosophy to a group of spiritually minded persons.

Revised translations of various books were issued.

Mr H. M. Soesiswo
General Secretary

ITALY

Various administrative and organizational matters were pursued. The work of the General Secretary has been simplified since the headquarters of the Section moved to Vicenza. It was not possible to obtain from the State Archives the date of dissolution of the Section by the Fascists or to recover documents of the Section prior to 1938.

Books are printed in collaboration with the publishing house 'Edizioni Teosofiche Italiane'. The Section magazine *Revista Italiana di Teosofia*, which appears monthly, is much appreciated and is distributed to more than 1000 persons.

In March 2001 the tenth seminar in collaboration with the European Federation was held in Vicoforte, the theme being 'Oneness of Life, as expressed in Symbols'. The theme of the National Convention held at Castrocaro Terme was 'Universal Brotherhood and the Search for the Sacred', among the guests being Professor Richard Brooks and Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu.

New theosophical centres were established in various places. The Centre in Cervignano does much useful work.

Among those who passed away in the period under report was Mr. Enzo

Forcellini of Turin, a staunch TS worker.

The TOS supported the printing of literature for Eastern Europe, the Olcott School at Adyar and earthquake victims in Gujarat, India.

We look forward to celebrating the Centenary of the Section in May 2002, with the International President as guest of honour.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

The Mexican Section was very active. At the National Headquarters lectures were held throughout the year, in addition to courses on *The Mahatma Letters*, karmic astrology and *The Secret Doctrine*. Important chapters of the latter work were studied in the city of Tapalehui.

Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and Foundation Day were celebrated, as well as the foundation day of the

Section. The National Convention was held on 13 November.

The Section is attempting to recover all its assets, which are with another organization.

Bazars were held to sell clothes, books etc. in aid of the Section.

Mrs Lissette Arroyo Jimenez
General Secetary

THE NETHERLANDS

In November 2000 we had a meditation session with more than 70 participants on the *Stanzas of Dzyan*. In March 2001 we had a one-day seminar with Henk Spierenburg on Subba Row and his Work with an attendance of 100. The theme of the seminar weekend was 'Esoteric Traditions in the East and the West'; it was attended by 70 participants.

The national study groups on *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Divine Plan* at our Amsterdam headquarters are going strong. A translation of S.S. Varma's book *Teachings of Disciple-ship* was published and some lodges are using it as a guide for their study. Soon translations of Taimni's *Self-Realization through Love* and Joy Mill's *Entering the Sacred Way* will

appear in print. A group of volunteers is working to make the library more accessible and attractive to the public. We hope eventually to extend the opening hours. All students have free access to our library.

The Board of the Section would like to have the Headquarters Building renovated, secretarial making the ground floor into a working floor with the library, bookshop and department. However, no agreement has been reached with the P.C. Meuleman Stichting which is the owner of the headquarters building and the trustee of the Dutch Section capital.

Mrs Ali Ritsema
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Following the World Congress in Sydney, the International President toured lodges in New Zealand and some other members from abroad also visited Auckland.

In February 2001, elections were held at the Annual General Meeting. At a special meeting in June, the National President, Mr. Arthur Goodall, was replaced by Mr. Allan Morse as Acting President.

The Executive Committee is working to reduce the deficit and improve returns from properties.

A Theosophy Science Weekend

was held in Auckland in October 2001, with the participation of Dr. M. Srinivasan from India, Dr. Hugh Murdoch and Dr. Anthony Pisano from Australia and others from New Zealand.

We now post four new books to each Lodge and Study Centre three times a year for their libraries. With the collaboration of the Internet Bookshop 'Spirit World', Quest and TPH books can be imported efficiently and cheaply.

Mr Allan Morse
Acting General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

The National Convention was held in Davao City in the far south of the country in November 2001, the theme being 'Living the Theosophical Life'. The Lodge Action Programme to be sent out to the public was clarified at a workshop. A Regional Convention of the Lodges in Visayas-Mindanao followed a programme similar to that of the National Convention.

Two Groups at Headquarters conducted studies on *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters* and a course on meditation. A radio programme 'In the Light of Theosophy' is broadcast every Sunday, beginning with a series of studies of mystics and spiritual teachers, pointing out the underlying similarities in teachings and

acquainting the public with the principles of the Spiritual Life.

Nine Self-Transformation Seminars were also conducted in the country, and the National President and others held seminars and lectures on Self-Transformation, Conflict Resolution and Inner Peace.

Land was purchased for the Golden Link School to be established under the auspices of the TOS. The Golden Link held a youth camp attended by 36 young people and a sports event in Quezon city. Three kindergarten schools continue their work.

Mr Vicente Hao Chin
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

A number of young people were admitted recently.

The magazine *Portugal Teosofico* appears quarterly. It includes articles from other theosophical magazines. Books published by the Brazilian Section are much appreciated. A bookshop has been opened. Books by Geoffrey Farthing have generated a

renewal of interest in theosophical teachings.

Courses are held on *The Secret Doctrine* and one Lodge is oriented towards guiding new members.

Dr Umberto Alvares da Costa
General Secretary

PUERTO RICO

We had two major projects during the year, the first being the organization of the Section Library in October 2001 as we received a large donation of about 6,000 books from the library of the late Bro. Miguel A Charneco. He was a physiologist and astrologer who travelled much and had diverse interests, especially in the field of occultism. We raised funds to make bookcases by such activities as organizing vegetarian lunches and sales. The other project was the construction of a terrace behind the building, where we have informal interchanges and refreshments after Sunday meetings. Some brothers

donated the money for this construction.

In February at our Annual Meeting Benito Rodriguez was elected as the new General Secretary. It was decided to make a major revision of our rules to conform with the state laws. Another committee is working on putting our magazine *Heraldo Teosofico* in circulation again. Two members of the Section, Mr Eladio Polanco and Mr Mario Lanza, are preparing a basic course on Theosophy. The first lesson has already been completed.

Mr Benito Rodriguez
General Secretary

SPAIN

During the year, Jose Tarrago from Barcelona was elected General Secretary in place of Carmen Cesar Galante. Two conferences were held, one of them near the Portuguese border, 80 Spanish and Portuguese members attending. The Summer

School near Madrid attracted 180 participants, including non-members.

A web page was established this year and 2000 information leaflets were printed and distributed.

There are at present thirteen active lodges, two lodges having become

study centres and a new lodge having been chartered in Alicante.

The magazine *Sophia* appears monthly. This year the third volume of *Talks on the Path of Occultism* and

How Theosophy Came to Me (C. W. Leadbeater) were published.

Mr Jose Tarrago
General Secretary

SRI LANKA

Membership increased by five. A new Lodge, Olcott Lodge, was inaugurated at Ananda College in Colombo. Steps are being taken to found Lodges in other Buddhist Colleges. Lectures were held at the headquarters in Colombo. The Lodges at Galle, Badulla and Veyangoda are working steadily.

The International President visited Sri Lanka in May and gave a public

lecture in Colombo, where an article by her appeared in an important newspaper. She also travelled to Kandy and Badulla in an effort to strengthen and initiate activities. Mr Pedro Oliveira will visit the Section for two weeks in April 2002.

Mr Tudor Jayawardene
General Secretary

SWEDEN

The TS in Sweden now has 162 members. Our magazine *Tidlos Visdom* (Timeless Wisdom) is issued quarterly. It accepts subscribers and can be received by E-mail.

Six Lodges were active and organized lectures on many themes as well as study on such subjects as 'Meditation and Dialogue', *The Secret Doctrine*, 'Music and Poems in Mysticism' and 'A Course in Miracles'. There have also been meetings to introduce new people to Theosophy and for Young Theosophists. A Members' Meeting took place to discuss the work of the Section.

In March we had a mini-school at our Headquarters in Stockholm on

'To Live Theosophy' with fifteen participants. Mrs Edin gave some valuable lectures. The Summer School with Professor Richard Brooks as Guest Speaker was on the theme 'Opening the Consciousness' and had 33 participants. Professor Brooks spoke on 'The Essential Unity of all Religions'; 'The Basic Doctrines of Buddhism'; 'Theosophy in Islam'; and 'Theosophy and Psychical Research'. We translated these lectures and immediately after the lecture distributed them to all participants.

We finished re-translating and printed *The Ancient Wisdom* by Annie Besant. We are working on translations of *No Other Path to Go* by Radha

Burnier and *Self-Culture* by I.K. Taimni as well as a new edition of *The Secret Doctrine*.

Our bookshop in Stockholm is open three days a week, and our website is kept up to date by two members. We

continue to help an orphanage in Latvia under the banner of the TOS.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund
General Secretary

SWITZERLAND

The Headquarters of the Swiss Section is situated in Geneva, where there are five lodges and two groups. Small groups of members and sympathizers meet in Basle, Winterthur and Villeret.

Unfortunately there is a lack of members able to lecture on Theosophy in our headquarters and we have to invite anyone whose ideas are not too extravagant to speak and even give courses, some of which are very popular. However, in the case of public activities, we specify that the speakers express their own opinions (and not those of the Society). Discussions 'over a cup of tea' have proved successful.

The Geneva premises are sublet to various groups, such as the Liberal Catholic Church and the Martinist, Mazdaznan and some Tibetan Buddhist associations.

The Section publishes a magazine in French, 'La Voie(x) Theosophique'. It also has a website in French. German-speaking members receive the German magazine *Theosophie Adyar*.

The French-speaking Summer School was held in Switzerland in September 2001.

A new General Secretary, Mme Anne Bornet, will take office on 1 January 2002.

Mr Edwin Nathan
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The TS in America continues to be sound. In 1999-2000, membership increased by 11% and in the first half of 2001 by a further 10%. The response to our membership outreach campaign has been good. We are most interested, however, in the renewal rate among new members. Many prospective members do not know of the existence of Theosophy or the TS. Using effective methods to inform them of

who we are and what we stand for can be beneficial for both them and the Society. Membership of the National Lodge is now over 800. Two study papers a month are sent to its members: one on the *Bhagavadgītā* and the other being an introductory study course in Theosophy.

A group of Young Theosophists meets at Olcott weekly. Three National Young Theosophist meetings were held

this year in different areas. The Young Theosophists publish a newsletter. They staged a theosophical play during the Annual Convention.

During the year, 19 speakers presented 132 programmes around the country. 'The Olcott Experience' brings local groups to Olcott for a long weekend to learn about the history of the TS and the resources available at Olcott, to share theosophical living etc. Work in local Lodges and Study Centres is carried on by devoted volunteers, ensuring the continued functioning of the Section.

Our new on-line library catalogue offers access to the three libraries in Olcott, Krotona and New York. On the libraries' web page patrons can access a list of new books, log on to the Library of Congress Catalogue, place their borrowing requests etc. The Library and the Audio Visual Department have jointly updated their Audio Video Guide. The archival space in the library has been reorganized. New items donated include fresh material on Geoffrey Hodson.

Quest Books continue their high quality productions. New publications included Daniel Caldwell's *The Esoteric World of Madame Blavatsky*; Amit Goswami's *The Visionary Window: A Quantum Physicist's Guide to Enlightenment*; and *The Power of Thought: a Twenty-First Century Adaptation of Annie Besant's Classic Work Thought Power*; a new edition of *At the Feet of the Master*, with an extract from Krishnamurti's *Towards Discipleship*; and background material about both. The third of the Wisdom Tradition Books will appear this fall: *Unlocking the Door; Studies in 'The*

Key to Theosophy'.

Quest books have been published abroad in a variety of languages.

Our web site has been completely redesigned and includes new features. The main articles from Quest Magazine are posted every two months on the web.

During the year 46 new programmes were produced on 93 Audio Tapes and seven other new programmes on sixteen video tapes. A nine-part series in Spanish on 'The Spiritual Life' in four cassettes will be sent to all Hispanic groups.

The National Centre has three full seasons, and this year 65 programmes were offered. Two 'Olcott Experience' weekends and two Elderhostels successfully featured the 'Visionary Window' and 'Spiritual Practices in the World's Religions' by Anton Lysy and John Algeo. The Olcott Institute is planning an expanded educational programme on the web.

The theme of the 2001 Convention in July was 'Theosophy, History and Service'. A special event was the dedication of our new Garden of Remembrance.

An open house in September drew a large crowd, but visitors come throughout the year, local newspapers publish articles about the TS or 'highlight' people, like our vegetarian cook.

The 'Quest Magazine' presents a mixture of theosophical and related articles and contains notices and programmes. 'The Messenger' carries articles about Olcott and specific membership information and announcements.

Dr John Algeo
National President

REPORTS OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

No Report

AUSTRIA

During the past year work went on as usual. Lectures and study groups were held in our lodges at Graz, Vienna and Linz.

In August our annual Summer School was held in Rohrbach in the house of Sanitas. It was a smaller gathering this year, as only 26 participants were able to come. The theme was 'Theosophy in the Diversity

of present day Esotericism,' and short talks with discussions were given.

The guests enjoyed the more familiar atmosphere this year and, as the weather was fine, were able to get to know the beautiful landscape of Upper Austria.

Mr Franz Durkowitsch
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

It has been a year of many activities related to formalizing the status of the Canadian Regional Association, including the preparation of by-laws.

Emphasis has been on visiting as many Lodges as possible. It is planned to draft model by-laws for Lodges.

Two web pages have been set up — one in English and one in French. The emphasis in the coming year will be on preparing and distributing material that

can be handed out, such as pamphlets and booklets. Material available in the American Section and from other sources will be useful.

The help of the former Regional Secretary, Elizabeth Smith, is much appreciated, including her contact with enquirers.

Mr George H. Duguay
Organizing Secretary

CHILE

The four Lodges studied *The Mahatma Letters*, C.W. Leadbeater's commentary on *At the Feet of the Master* and other material, including various articles by Mrs. Radha

Burnier and others. The usual theosophical celebrations were observed.

Public lectures or symposia were held in Santiago every Saturday and

at least once a month on the outskirts. Study courses were offered on 'The Path of Theosophy' and on Meditation. A study course on Theosophy is available by mail and on internet. Study courses were also held for members.

Four issues of the magazine appeared and a bulletin for members is now being printed.

Mr Maximiliano Aguilera
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND, NORTHERN

The year was one of steady work. We have managed to keep our public meetings and members' meetings going as usual. Many thanks are due to Queens University, Belfast, for allowing us to hire a room. Both the members' meetings and the public meetings were well attended.

The books studied were Annie Besant's *The Masters* along with some writings by Krishnamurti.

We look forward with confidence to the future.

Mr John Doherty
President

IVORY COAST

The social and political crisis continues to have a negative affect on the development of the TS in our country. Nevertheless we continue our work with a sense of duty and fervor.

All the important theosophical days were commemorated beginning on 1 October, when the birthday of Annie Besant provided an appropriate occasion for a lecture on the life of that great President. We also celebrated Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day.

On 28 January 2001 our fourth National Conference took place. In August we had a seminar at the Headquarters on the subject of 'Self-Knowledge and Spiritual Evolution'. There were three speakers, including the Organizing Secretary, and 26 members attended.

Every day of the week we offer a dynamic service of welcome and

information for visitors at our Headquarters and every Sunday morning we have sessions of meditation and prayer for peace in the world, discussions and questions and answers. For almost six months we supported with positive thoughts and prayer the Forum for Reconciliation, initiated by the President of our Republic to restore lasting peace in our country. We ask Theosophists throughout the world to support with their prayers and meditation a genuine reconciliation of the peoples of the Ivory Coast.

We retain confidence in the future and count on having many more members who are only waiting for real peace in our country to contribute to the development of our work.

Mr Pierre Magloire Kouahoh
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

Membership is 34 against 36 last year, as two members resigned. Advertised public meetings have been held regularly in Oslo. There have also been regular activities in Bergen Lodge. Book sales are ongoing.

In strict accordance with the rules, a new organizing secretary was elected in advance, as my third term of office will expire in February 2002. Mrs Agnes

Gaasemyr was the only candidate and was elected.

The large library of the Section has been transferred to a friend's place on the outskirts of Oslo. The rules have been revised and approved by the President.

Mr Torstein Tobiassen
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

The TS in Scotland consists of Lodges in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Inverness; they all continue to do good work. Weekend workshops are regularly held in Glasgow, and there is a beginners' evening at Inverness.

Our area for promotional work this year was Perth, where a series of public talks took place in the spring, followed by the TS Convention in June. There is interest in starting a Study Group there.

The Convention was held in Perth on Friday evening and Saturday. It was

well attended and offered a good opportunity to meet members, especially the unattached ones.

Our website keeps members in touch with Lodge programmes and information concerning the TS. Newsletters are sent out twice yearly, in spring and autumn.

Maintaining our two buildings is becoming an increasing financial burden.

Mr Alastair McQueen
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

The Regional Association in Slovenia has 56 members in three active lodges and one dormant one. Adyar Lodge in Ljubljana has a new rented place for its meetings where the work is less disturbed. Once a month, from November to May, with the exception of February, a Saturday seminar was organized on the basic

themes of the Ancient Wisdom under the title 'The Light of Theosophy'. Members of other Lodges were also invited. During the year at the weekly meetings, important theosophical books, articles from *The Theosophist* and other theosophical magazines, Krishnamurti's talks and so forth were studied. Dr Cveta Staric led a course

for new candidates of whom there were four.

Surya Lodge in Koper has 21 members, who have grown in the understanding that all their studies are meant to deepen self-culture, and that each member should become a pillar of the TS and a messenger of theosophical ideas and ideals. Books were taken up for study towards this end.

In February 2001, a weekend seminar on 'What is Theosophy?' was held in Soncek and every member presented his or her own understanding, not only of Theosophy but also of the responsibility of each member for the organization and for himself.

Surya-Svit Lodge in Maribor, chartered on 17 February 2000 with nine members, met weekly for study and also held meetings every fortnight. They helped the members of Surya Lodge to prepare the Summer School which was held in Svecina near Maribor.

Razumevanje Lodge in Celje has three members and has been dormant for a few years. We are endeavouring to revive this Lodge, for which purpose the Organizing Secretary gave two talks in Celje, which were followed by regular fortnightly meetings led by the President of Adyar Lodge. A public lecture given by Miss Mary Anderson in July created much interest.

Weekly meetings in the Lodges were well attended. Miss Mary Anderson conducted seminars in Ljubljana and Koper and gave three public lectures.

Our magazine 'Theosophical Thought' was brought out twice yearly and sent to some public libraries, bookshops and non-members.

The annual General Body Meeting and Convention were held in June, and the Executive Committee and Organizing Secretary were elected for three years from 2002 - 2004.

I was happy to attend the World Congress in Sydney. Three members took part in the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, and four members attended the European School of the Wisdom at Naarden in Holland.

Our future plans include reviving the Lodge in Celje, reprinting three books which are out of print, issuing some leaflets and bringing out our magazine 3-4 times a year. We also plan a weekend seminar in February, another one in spring with the Chairman of the European Federation, and the summer school at the end of June with Miss Mary Anderson. There will of course be public lectures and courses as well as lodge seminars and studies.

Mrs Irena P. Kristan
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

During the year Amour Lodge held monthly and weekly meetings with 18 members and some enquirers. A seminar was organized in August in the Dany N'Digbé Centre.

John Coats Lodge in Lomé is dormant. But the new Krishnamurti Lodge in that city holds regular theosophical meetings.

In Togo, especially in Lomé, there are more than 100 sects, promising their members prosperity and salvation. This is due in part to the social and political crisis which is upsetting economic life. But the TS is going on serenely with its theosophical work.

Mr M. Dam Tsowu
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

Activities included a panel discussion on service, a symposium on 'Healing in the New Millennium', a workshop on 'Practical Study of Meditation' etc. The theosophical celebration days were observed.

A small bulletin is being published and printed together with

the magazine of the Argentinian Section.

Radio programmes are broadcast every Saturday.

Mrs Ema de Souza Leal
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Although membership remains about 30, good work is being done.

In mid-Wales, a study group is thriving. In South Wales introductory courses are held with meditation and yoga groups. Young people are attracted by the public talks and we

hope to see an increase in numbers. The older members in North Wales are gradually retiring and more work needs to be done there.

Mrs Liz Parker
Organizing Secretary

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, SOUTH EAST

The work in Seremban Lodge, Malaysia, has improved; theosophical books are now being studied regularly, followed by discussion. The Library has been updated and more members are borrowing books. A three-monthly newsletter is made available also to non-members.

The newly formed Siam Lodge, Bangkok, received a boost from a visit by the Venerable Samdhong Rinpoche in January 2001.

Singapore is the most active Lodge in the area, with courses in Basic Theosophy. 51 new members joined

the Lodge during the year. A monthly Newsletter is published. Penang Lodge continues its usual programme of study and discussion twice a month. There has been little contact with the lodges in Bangladesh. No replies have been received to letters. This may be due in part to conditions in the country.

Information leaflets were sent to all the Lodges in S.E. Asia with a view to helping their work.

Malacca Study Centre in Malaysia has been dissolved.

*Dr C.V. Agarwal
Presidential Representative*

BOLIVIA

Study meetings and camps were organized for members on the constitution of man and nature, the *Bhavadgītā* and the Proem of *The Secret Doctrine*.

Public Lectures were also held, for example on the origin and destiny of man, education, fraternal relations etc. Classes on Yoga attracted a number of young people.

Members of all the Lodges in Cochabamba meet every Sunday, each

Lodge taking it in turn to organize the programme. Subjects studied included Human Regeneration and the Purpose of Life. In addition, study groups meet to study theosophical books. The Library is open daily.

The Presidential Representative visited various parts of the country.

*Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez
Presidential Representative*

COSTA RICA

There are three Lodges in the capital, San Jose, where public lectures are held once a month and

Lodge meetings weekly, the latter featuring lectures, discussions and/or workshops. Selected non-members

are invited. Once a year an introductory course is held, lasting between four and nine months. Healing sessions and meditations for peace take place weekly.

There is a library and a bookshop. Twenty-nine students participated in a

correspondence course on Theosophy.

Two Study Centres have been formed outside the capital.

Ms Maria de los Angeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DENMARK

Ten public meetings were arranged in a rented room in Copenhagen, and four monthly meetings were held in our small centre during the year. *At the Feet of the Master*, which was out of print for some time, has now been reproduced on our computer.

There has been a drastic decrease in membership for various reasons: three old members died; the others did not resign but just stopped paying their fees.

We had to stop our private study group, because some of the new members still want to work for another group, and use most of the time intended for our study to relate what they experienced in the other group.

I am happy that we got two new members during the year. So now we have 27 members in good standing.

Mr Flemming Hansen
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

The general meeting was held on 6 October 2000, when 63% of the members were present in person or by proxy. After the annual report and financial statement had been adopted, the main subject taken up was the study plan and the place of the meetings.

One study group worked in my flat, the other did not function. The major part of the work consisted in questions which the members tried to answer, apart from 'evergreen' themes like karma, death and after.

Mr Laszlo Reicher's passing leaves a great blank in translation work. Public lectures were temporarily suspended.

During the last six years a study group of non-members has functioned 200 kms from Budapest. I went there once a month to help them.

We published the *Bhagavadgitā* in a new form, and a nice novel translated for the first time into Hungarian, and also, after much editing, Laszlo Reicher's *Theosophical Panorama*. At present we have 36 members, of whom about one third are outside Budapest and meet only occasionally. One new member joined but one left. Ten or twelve members staying in or near Budapest are active.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF

No Report

PAKISTAN

There is only one active Lodge at present. Hyderabad (Sund) Lodge is dormant. Our membership stands at 124.

The Karachi TS is increasingly in the public eye; ten public lectures were held at a five-star hotel and publicized in Karachi's major newspaper. The average attendance was 60 - 70.

In-depth study continues with a group meeting every Wednesday, studying at present Clara Codd's *The Way of the Disciple*. The average attendance is 15. Serious students deeply appreciate this activity.

Foundation Day, Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and Wesak Full Moon were commemorated by special meetings, short talks, readings, and devotional songs.

The Karachi Theosophist is distributed free to all members and in addition to 125 interested persons. The Mahtani Foundation has generously donated money for the next six issues. The Library and Reading Room continue to be open,

although the place has become less accessible owing to heavy traffic and parking problems. This facility was opened in 1911 and new books are acquired through donations made by one or two dedicated members.

Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr. visited us from 28 February to 5 March 2001 and gave two public lectures on 'Inner Peace, the Foundation of Social and Global Peace' and 'Theosophy and the Problems of Daily Living'. About 80 persons attended these lectures. The highlight of his visit was a two-day seminar on 'Self-Transformation' attended by 41 members and non-members. Part of the programme received television coverage.

Bro. Doulat K. Mahtani, our longest standing member, passed to the higher life on 7 November 2001 and will be greatly missed.

Two of our members attended the World Congress in Sydney.

Mrs Gool K. Minwalla
Presidential Representative

PERU

During the year sixteen public talks were arranged as well as a course on 'Principles of the Theosophical Philosophy' open to the public; it was well attended. We also had a course on Theosophy for new members which finished in October 2001.

HPB Lodge studied Dr Ravi Ravindra's *The Gospel according to St John* and *The Yoga of the Christ*. They have now started on A.E. Powell's *The Mental Body*. Several talks were also given to sympathizers who were allowed to attend lodge meetings.

Lodge Loto Blanco was closed in December 2000 because of lack of interest. However, the study group Verdad continued to function using Annie Besant's books on karma and reincarnation and A.E. Powell's *The Etheric Body*.

All the important theosophical days were commemorated. In addition we had a large Christmas gathering and a party every month to celebrate members' birthdays.

The number of members at present is 42, one more than last year. We are printing 1000 copies of our magazine *Busqueda* (Quest) which is sold to the

public and distributed to members, journalists and university students. Members receive something valuable to read every month, including *On the Watch-Tower* in Spanish and other articles. During the first eighteen months, new members receive information about the Society and a simple course on Theosophy. We were very happy to receive a consignment of books from Adyar for our Library which is now largely catalogued and in good order.

Our TOS gave gifts to the poor children in a hospital and various necessities to old people in two homes. We also gave help to the survivors of the earthquake in the south of the country.

One of the Institutes of the University of Engineering invited us to give lectures to faculty members. Mrs Edith Pomar gave these lectures, one on 'The Law of Karma' and another on 'The Inner Development of Man' to an audience of about 180 people. They were much appreciated.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar
Presidential Representative

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

There is a Lodge in Magnitogorsk and study groups are active in Moscow, Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk, Yalta and Krimennaya. The main theme of study in Magnitogorsk was *Creating Character*, based on books by Dr Besant, Krishnamurti and Mrs

Radha Burnier. Articles from *The Theosophist* were discussed. In Moscow, *The Mahatma Letters* and the *Bhagavadgītā* were studied.

Three young persons from the Ukraine attended the World Congress and five young members

took part in the Naarden School of the Wisdom.

This year the International Vice-President, Mary Anderson, visited Moscow in August and conducted courses on *The Voice of the Silence* and Fundamentals of Theosophy. Participants attended from eight cities in Russia and the Ukraine.

Books brought by Mary Anderson were distributed among active members.

Four new members joined during the year and three are candidates.

Mrs Nina Veligon
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Subjects of study in Blavatsky Lodge were *The Golden Stairs*, *Rational Philosophy*, *The Work of the Lodge*, *Animal Welfare*, etc. *Light on the Path* was also studied. Fraternidad Lodge studied different subjects from *The Mahatma Letters*. Both Lodges met weekly.

'Hermes Thot' Study Group also held weekly meetings, studying in particular *At the Feet of the Master*.

The theosophical commemorative days were observed, as well as the foundation day of the TS in Venezuela.

As from 2 May 2001, members in Venezuela have been attached to the TS in Colombia.

Miss Mariela Lasso Salas
Presidential Representative

REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Members' meetings were held fortnightly, *The Voice of the Silence* and various theosophical subjects being studied alternately.

There were three public meetings monthly. At one of them, held in a rented hall, the viewpoint of invited speakers on some subject is presented along with the theosophical view. These meetings attract about 70 participants. At the other two public meetings, attended by about 20 persons, theosophical subjects are treated.

Five introductory courses were held, with attendances of 10 to 15 persons, as well as a course on teaching Theosophy and three meditation courses.

There were two seminars, on 'Clear Vision, Pure Consciousness' and 'Openness, Non-attachment' and

'Forgiveness', with attendances of 250 and 230 respectively, and six workshops attended by 5 to 20 persons. Twice a month, special meetings are held for young people with 10 to 15 participants.

About 40 persons, members and also sympathizers, go once a month on excursions to the countryside, where they study and meditate.

Eight talks were given by the Vice-President during her visit.

The magazine OR (Light) continues to appear regularly.

The 'Circle of Friends of the TS', with 40 'friends', has been created. They are not ready to join the Society but pay the equivalent of membership fees.

Mr Abraham Oron
President

NIPPON AND OSAKA LODGES (JAPAN)

No Report

SEOUL LODGE (KOREA)

Membership stands at 15. There are two Lodges, Seoul Lodge and Tague Lodge. One of our members,

Kim Une Kyung, is presently at Adyar.
Mr Kil-Young Lim
President

REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The 125th International Convention in December 2000 at Adyar and the 9th world Congress in January 2001 in Sydney were attended by many European members.

In March I visited Italy: Cervignano and Vicoftore, where the tenth EFTS Seminar was held. In May a first EFTS Seminar was organized in Portugal. In October, I spent two weeks in Quebec, holding a seminar and workshop and public lectures.

The EFTS arranged a two-month lecture tour for Professor Richard Brooks, USA. He was the guest speaker at summer schools in Finland and Sweden and at the French and Italian Conventions, visited some Lodges in England and gave several programmes in Italy and Belgium, in addition to conducting two sessions of the School of the Wisdom at Naarden on 'Eastern Spiritual Traditions', with, among many others, seven participants from Russia, three from Belarus and five from Slovenia. The Financial Aid

Fund (FAF) makes it possible to invite Eastern European guests to events in Western Europe. The CEEC continued to purchase books for Eastern European members, so that in time libraries can be built up.

The International Vice-President spent three months in Europe, lecturing and giving seminars in a number of countries, including Russia, where she held two seminars.

The European Council and Executive Committee met preceding the French-speaking Summer School at Champex-Lac in the Swiss Alps. The present Chairman and Treasurer (the undersigned and Marja Artamaa respectively) were re-elected. The usual summer schools were held in England, Finland, Germany and Sweden, as well as shorter summer schools in Austria, Holland and Slovenia.

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu
Chairman

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

The Council of the Federation held its triennial business meeting on 15 January 2001, during the World Congress in Sydney. The following new officers were elected: Mr Pedro Oliveira (Australia) and Mr Dara Mirza (Pakistan) took office as President and Vice-President respectively. New

Executive Committee members are: Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr. (the Philippines), Mr Chong Sanne (Singapore) and Mr Arthur Goodall (New Zealand). Ms Vicki Jerome, New Zealand, was appointed Secretary.

An updated directory of Sections and Lodges has been sent to office-

bearers in the Federation. It is expected that this will facilitate contact and communication throughout the area.

The Executive Committee has approved the project of bringing out a Mandarin-Chinese edition of *The Key to Theosophy*. Vicente Hao Chin, former Chairman of the Federation, is finalizing the English-Chinese list of terms that is essential to guide translators as to the correct meaning of key theosophical concepts. Brother Hao Chin also conducted a workshop on Self-Transformation in Adyar in October 2001.

The Federation Newsletter is now published twice a year and distributed widely. All Sections and Lodges are encouraged to send newsworthy items about the theosophical work in their areas. The emphasis is on making Theosophy, the soul-restoring Wisdom, more widely known.

We gratefully acknowledge the Australian Section's continued support of the Federation's work.

Mr Pedro Oliveira
President

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

The International President's visit (in August and September 2000) led to stronger links between the TS in the different countries in our area as well as more enthusiasm and new and interesting programmes.

In May 2001, Dr Terezinha Franca Kind visited Paraguay, where there were 17 applications for membership. Two study groups are working there under Bolivia.

We regret the passing of brother Jaime Hernandez Hostaller, Costa Rica who was a valuable worker for the Society.

A business meeting for the election of the officers of the Federation, scheduled to take place in Mexico in September 2001, had to be cancelled following the terrorist attack in New York in that month.

The 125th International Convention at Adyar in December 2000 and the 9th World Congress in January 2001 were the highlights of the period.

Mr Alfredo Puig Figueroa
President

PAN AFRICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The Pan African Federation was conceived at the All African Convention held in Nairobi in October 2000. The Constitution was drawn up and approved at a meeting during the World Congress in Sydney in January 2001, the first members being the East and Central African, Southern African

and West African Sections and the first Chairman Mr Tom Davis, General Secretary of the Southern African Section. A first Newsletter has appeared.

Mr T. Davies
Chairman

**DIRECTORY
AND
MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Date	Section	General Secretary	Address	Magazine	e-mail address
1947	Africa, East & Central	... Mr C. P. Robertson Dunn	... PO Box 45928, Nairobi, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	cprdunn@nbnet.co.ke
1909	Africa, S	... Mr T. G. Davis	... 22 Buffels Rd., Rietondale 0084, Pretoria	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	thosgdavis@icon.co.za
1956	Africa, W.	... Mr P. B. Kwakyi	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	boulders@ghana.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mrs Carmen Aguilar Alvarez	... 3a, Calle 5-35 Zona 2, 01002 Guatemala, Guatemala		
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore	... Casilla de Correo 166, 5600 San Rafael, Provincia de Mendoza	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	starge@infovia.com.ar
1990	Asia, S.E. [†]	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010, India	... <i>Lotus</i>	
1895	Australia	... Mrs Linda Oliveira	... 4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	tshq@austheos.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Franz Durkowitsch	... Altmühlweg 5/6, A-4810, Gmunden	... <i>Adyar</i>	
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	
1965	Bolivia [†]	... Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez	... Casilla de Correo 3911, Cochabamba		viajero@comteco.entelnet.bo
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ricardo Lindemann	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)	... <i>Theosophia</i>	teosofia@stb.org.br
1924	Canada *	... Mr George H. Duguay	... 1667, Nash Road, Box 108, Unit F-18 Courtice Ont. LIE 1S8	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	geoduguay@sympatico.ca
1920	Chile *	... Mr Maximiliano Aguilera	... Casilla 3603, Santiago 21	... <i>Revista Teosófica Chilena</i>	sociedadteosofica@entelchile.net
1937	Colombia	... Mrs Nelly Medina de Galvis	... Cra. 6, No. 56-40, Bogota-2	... <i>Selección Teosófica</i>	
1997	Costa Rica [†]	... Ms Maria Orlich	... Apartado 8-6710-1000, San Jose		orlichsm@yahoo.com
1905	Cuba	... Mrs Nilda Venegas Bernal	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600	... <i>Revista Teosófica Cubana</i>	teocuba@yahoo.com
1918	Denmark [†]	... Mr Flemming Hansen	... Ystadvej 38, DK-2850 Naerum	... <i>Tidens Teosofi</i>	hansens@post6.tele.dk
1888	England	... Mr Colin Price	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA	... <i>Insight</i>	theosophical@freenetname.co.uk
1907	Finland	... Mr Yrjo Kumila	... Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Teosofi</i>	teosofinen.seura@jippii.fi
1899	France	... Mme Danielle Audoin	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	ediadyar@noos.fr
1902	Germany	... Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	... Friedrich-Wilhelm-Str. 54, D-12103, Berlin	... <i>Theosophie Adyar</i>	mail@theosophie-adyar.de
1928	Greece	... Mr G. P. Sivris	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Ilisos</i>	theosophicalgr@hotmail.com
1907	Hungary [†]	... Mr Thomas Martinovich	... Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011 Budapest	... <i>Teozofia</i>	tshutau7@elender.hu
1921	Iceland	... Mr Gisli V. Jonsson	... PO Box 1257 Ingolfsstræti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Gangleri</i>	ts@gudspekkifelagid.is
1891	India	... Mr P. K. Jayaswal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	theosophy_vns@yahoo.com
1912	Indonesia	... Mr H. M. Soesiswo	... Jalan Otto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur BT36 7NX, Co.Antrim	... <i>Theosofi</i>	icak@dnet.net.id
1949	Ireland N. *	... Mr John Doherty	... 2 Pineview Park, Newtownabbey BT36 7NX, Co.Antrim	... <i>Insight</i>	
1919	Ireland, Rep. of [†]	... Mrs Noirin Clancy	... 8 Hillside Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 - Eire		
1902	Italy	... Mr Antonio Girardi	... Via Quintino Sella, 32, C.P. 640	... <i>Rivista Italiana di Teosofia</i>	st@telemax.it

1997	Ivory Coast *	... Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh (W. Africa)	... Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	... Sophia	kmagloire@dewaza.africaonline.co.ci
1919	Mexico	... Mrs Lissette Arroyo Jimenez	... Ignacio Mariscal, 126, Col. Tabacalera C.P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.		zetamex@psi.net.mx
1897	Netherlands	... Mrs Ali Ritsema	... Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam	... <i>Theosofia</i>	info@theosofie.nl
1896	New Zealand	... Mr John Vorstermans	... 18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3	... <i>Theosophy in New Zealand</i>	hq@theosophy.org.nz
1913	Norway *	... Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr	... PO Box 2974, Landaas N - 5825 Bergen	... <i>Teosofen</i>	agngaase@frisurf.no
1948	Pakistan †	... Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	... Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinna Road, Karachi	... <i>The Karachi Theosophist</i>	toskarachi@hotmail.com
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	... <i>Búsqueda</i>	teosoficaperu@hotmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr.	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City	... <i>The Philippine Theosophist</i>	tspeace@info.com.ph
1921	Portugal	... Dr Humberto Alvares da Costa	... E. de Benfica, No. 678-C-1º Dto. 1500 - 110 - Lisbon	... <i>Portugal Teosófico</i>	halvcostastp@hotmail.com
1925	Puerto Rico	... Mr Benito Rodriguez	... GPO Box 36-1766, San Juan, 00936-1766	... <i>Heraldo Teosófico</i>	unionteo@prtc.net
1994	Russia †	... Mrs Nina Veligon	... Pereulok Soviet House 4, Flat 56, 455036 Magnitogorsk		veligon_ts@hotbox.ru
1910	Scotland *	... Mr Alastair MacQueen	... 2 Brownhills Cottages, St Andrews, Fife KY 16 8PL, UK	... <i>Circles</i>	A.macQueen@dundeeccoll.ac.uk
1992	Slovenia *	... Mrs Irena P. Kristan	... Martinova pot 35, SLO - 1210, Ljubljana	... <i>Teozofska Misel</i>	Irena.PK@email.si
1921	Spain	... Mr Jose Tarrago	... Calle Pomaret, 114, 08017 - Barcelona	... <i>Sophia</i>	J. TARRAGO@terra.es
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr Tudor Jayawardene	... 84/3 Pepiliyana Road, Dostarawatta, Nugegoda	... <i>The Sri Lanka Theosophist</i>	
1895	Sweden	... Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	... Kalle Posts väg 48, SE-702 29 Örebro	... <i>Tidlös Visdom</i>	teosamf@teosofiskasamfundet.a.se
1910	Switzerland	... Mrs Anne Bornet	... 17, Rue Ferdinand Hodler, CH - 1207 Geneva	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	edwin@iprolink.ch
1997	Togo *	... Mr M. Dam Tsowu	... BP 215. Atakpame		
1886	USA	... Dr John Algeo	... PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60189-0270	... <i>The Quest</i>	olcott@theosmail.net
1925	Uruguay *	... Mrs Ema de Souza Leal	... Javier Barrios Amorin 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo		samadhi@internet.com.uy
1922	Wales *	... Mrs Liz Parker	... 206 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1PL, UK	... <i>Insight</i>	

Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairman*: Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France. E-mail: kimdieu_ts@magic.fr

Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr.Alfredo Puig Figueroa, SGAS Quadra 603,No.20 (CEP-70200-630),Brasilia (DF) Brazil, *TheoSophia*

Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr Pedro Oliveira, 4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia. e-mail: indopres@austheos.org.au

Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr Tom Davis, 22 Buffels Road, Rietondale 0084, Pretoria, South Africa. e-mail:thosgdavis@icon.co.za

Additional Members of the General Council

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orléans, France (for 2002, 2001 and 2003)

Mr K. Visvanathan, 'Surya', 187, Dr N.R. Road, Injambakkam, Chennai 600 041 (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Mr Paul Zwollo, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, NL-1411 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Miss Ianthe Hoskins, 37 Victoria Hill Road, Hextable, Swanley, Kent BR8 7LL, England (for 1999, 2000 and 2001).

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 930023, USA (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mr Surendra Narayan, F-225-A, Sainik Farms, New Delhi 110 062, India (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez, Transversal 19, No. 61-32 Bogota 2, Colombia (South America) (for 2000, 2001, 2002)

Mr Curt Berg, Mirabellbacken 11, SE-165 Hässelby, Sweden (for 2002, 2003 and 2004)

Mrs Linda Oliveira, 11 Denison Street, Hornsby, NSW 2077, Australia (for 2000, 2001 and 2002)

MINUTES

Of the meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held on Tuesday, 25 December 2001, at Adyar

PRESENT

Mrs. Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for South Africa, Brazil, Finland, Italy and the Philippines</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Australia, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and Miss Joy Mills</i>
Mrs. Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary and proxy for West Africa, Argentina, Colombia, Puerto Rico and Mr. Gabriel Burgos</i>
Mr. D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer and proxy for the United States of America and Mrs. Linda Oliveira</i>
Mr. C. P. Robertson Dunn	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Mr. S.M. Umakanth Rao	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr. Tudor Jayawardene	<i>General Secretary, Sri Lanka</i>
Mr. Surendra Narayan	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Spain</i>
Ms. Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for France, Germany, Mexico and Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr. K. Visvanathan	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr. Paul Zwollo	<i>Additional Member and proxy for England and The Netherlands</i>

Present by invitation as Observers:

Dr. C. V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative for South-East Asia</i>
Mrs. Agnes Gaasemyr	<i>Norway</i>

The President warmly welcomed those present.
The list of proxies was read out as recorded above.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held at Adyar on 25 December 2000 and those of the consultative meeting during the World Congress of the Society in Sydney on 17 January 2001 had been circulated. They were confirmed, with one correction to the latter Minutes: the name of Mr. C. P. Robertson Dunn, General Secretary of East and Central Africa, should be added in the printed text.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

Regarding Greece and Scotland, see Item 10 below.

3. Confirmation of Voting

(a) *Election of Vice-President for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004*

The President had nominated Dr. John Algeo for election as Vice-President under Rule 11 (a) of the Rules and Regulations for a three-year term from 1.1.2002.

The result of the voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Total</i>
39	-	-	39

Dr. John Algeo was declared elected Vice-President for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004.

(b) *Election of Additional Members for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004*

The President had nominated Miss Mary Anderson and renominated Miss Joy Mills, Mr. Surendra Narayan and Mr. Curt Berg under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations for election as Additional Members of the General Council.

The results of the voting were:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Total</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	38	-	1	39
Miss Joy Mills	38	-	1	39
Mr. Surendra Narayan	39	-	-	39
Mr. Curt Berg	38	-	1	39

The four above-named were declared elected Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee

The Vice-President reported that, during the year ended 30 September 2001, a grant amounting to approximately US\$1,285/- had been made to the Greek Section for the publication of *The Key to Theosophy*. Further, grants had been approved to the French and Swedish Sections, amounting to approximately US\$8,510/- and US\$2,015/- respectively; these grants had been paid after 1 October 2001.

It was suggested that small and financially weak TS bodies should be encouraged to publish good translations of small but important books, with the help of the NEPF, and arrange for adequate distribution and sale.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Vice-President presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ended 30 September 2001.

6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ended 30 September 2001; Executive Committee for 2002

Salient points from the Minutes of the Executive Committee were presented.

The following were appointed members of the Executive Committee for 2002:

Mrs. Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>)
Dr. John Algeo	<i>Vice-President</i>) ex
Mrs. Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary</i>) officio
Mr. D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>)
Mr. Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>	
Mr. K. Visvanathan	<i>General Council Member</i>	
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>General Council Member</i>	
Mr. Conrad Jamieson		
Mr. R.M. Tolani		
Ms. Keshwar Dastur		

7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2001

The Treasurer's report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2001, which had previously been circulated, were considered. The overall financial position of the Society continued to be satisfactory. The report and accounts were adopted.

8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 2003

The budget for the year ending 31 March 2003, which had been previously circulated, was considered and adopted.

9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2003

Messrs. Fraser and Ross were appointed auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 2003, the annual fee being increased from Rs.25,000/- to Rs.30,000/-.

10. Work around the world

(a) Scotland

The Vice-President reported that, in spite of attempts at reconciliation following the recommendations of the General Council at its meeting on 25 December 2000, trouble had again arisen in the TS in Scotland, complaints from two lodges against the Organizing Secretary and the Executive Committee having been conveyed to the President. The latter had asked Mrs. Ali Ritsema and Dr. John Algeo to undertake an inquiry into the situation, which would take place in February 2002. On the basis of their report, some appropriate action could be taken, if necessary.

Unfortunately, the TS in Scotland seems to have little understanding of the role and intentions of the International Society, and to regard the proposed inquiry into the problem as an unsympathetic accusation, while in fact the International Society is only interested in seeing the TS flourish everywhere.

(b) Portugal

Two members had been expelled from the Section and had appealed to the President. There were accusations of infiltration by another organization which had been encouraging its members to join the TS. Moreover, the General Secretary had maintained for some years that the Rules of the Section, which are obsolete, could not be amended to incorporate the Essential Elements as required by the General Council, and also to become compatible with the international Rules.

Ms. Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, who had been asked by the President to conduct an inquiry, reported that she had discussed these matters with the General Secretary, the Section Council and others on 16 - 18 November. As a result, one of the expelled members was reinstated. They agreed to amend the Rules suitably, but asked for guidance. It was decided to send them model Rules as early as possible. The Chairman of the European Federation was requested to keep contact with the Section in order to ensure that its work proceeds along the right lines.

(c) Other Areas

The Greek Section had amended its Rules, but had not yet sent a copy to Adyar for checking and approval by the President. Their Annual Report was very vague, with no details of the actual work done. The General Secretary has been asked to give a more comprehensive and detailed report.

11. Any Other Business

Workers' Conference at Adyar

There was a discussion on difficulties faced off and on because an increasingly small number of members understand what Theosophy is and the nature of TS work. This leads to infiltration by other groups, unsuitable people being elected to office and so forth. Unless the problem is met at a basic level, the future of the Society may be jeopardized. The President said it might be useful to have a conference of invited members at Adyar at the end of 2002 or the beginning of 2003 in order to explore in depth the steps necessary for preserving the Society's integrity and aims in the future.

Juhu Property

A tenant of the international Society's inherited property in Juhu, Bombay, has proposed that he would reconstruct the old building at his cost, after persuading the other tenant to vacate the house by paying compensation, provided the TS agrees to joint ownership of the new construction.

It was decided that joint ownership could not be agreed to, as a matter of principle.

Jain Shrine / Animal Dispensary

8955 The General Council had decided that more shrines should not be erected in the Adyar campus of the TS. Recently a request was made by the Jain community that a small Jain shrine be erected in the campus, for which they would donate money to the TS. Entry would be subject to all rules and conditions of the TS. It was decided that this may be considered in detail by the Executive Committee, in view of the support by the community for animal welfare work.

It is being planned to start an awareness campaign against cruelty to animals and possibly publish a magazine, under the auspices of the TS animal welfare centre.

